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1 SEWARD PENINSULA SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL
2 ADVISORY COUNCIL PUBLIC MEETING
3 VOLUME I
4 February 22, 2000
5 2:20 p.m.
6 Katimavik
7 Unalakleet Alaska
8

9 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

10
11 Grace A. Cross, Chair
12 Frances A. Degnan, Secretary
13 Perry T. Mendenhall, Member
14 Leonard Kobuk, Member
15 Peter G. Buck, Member
16 Preston Rookok, Alternate
17
18 Helga C. Eakon, Coordinator

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P R O C E E D I N G S

(On record - 2:20 p.m.)

CHAIR CROSS: I will call to order the Seward Peninsula Subsistence Federal Advisory Council public meeting at Katimavik Meeting Place in Unalakleet, Alaska. Today is February 22, year 2000. It is now 2:21.

Secretary Degnan, would you please call roll?

MS. DEGNAN: Okay. Preston Rookok?

MR. ROOKOK: Here.

MS. DEGNAN: Daniel Olanna? Perry Mendenhall?

MR. MENDENHALL: Here. Present.

MS. DEGNAN: Isaac Okleasik, Junior?

MR. MENDENHALL: He's excused I think, because of air -- weather.

MS. EAKON: Isaac faxed me a little note to you saying please excuse me, he's doing census over at Diomede Island. Okay?

MS. DEGNAN: Uh-huh. Okay.

CHAIR CROSS: He's excused. Okay.

MS. DEGNAN: Okay. Toby Anungazuk, Junior?

MS. EAKON: He is in training. He could not make this.

MR. MENDENHALL: Fairbanks.

MS. EAKON: Yeah, he's in different training.

MS. DEGNAN: Okay. Elmer Seetot, Junior?

MS. EAKON: Elmer was going to be in route, but Cape Smythe and Bering Air canceled, so he's going to join us via teleconference tomorrow. Okay.

MR. MENDENHALL: Excuse though now.

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1 CHAIR CROSS: He's excused.

2
3 MS. EAKON: Yeah.

4
5 MS. DEGNAN: Peter Buck?

6
7 MR. BUCK: Yeah.

8
9 MS. DEGNAN: Leonard Kobuk?

10
11 MR. KOBUK: Here.

12
13 MS. DEGNAN: Grace Cross?

14
15 CHAIR CROSS: Here.

16
17 MS. DEGNAN: Johnson Eningowuk?

18
19 CHAIR CROSS: Anybody heard from Johnson?

20
21 MS. EAKON: No, we have not heard from
22 Johnson, nor Daniel Olanna, even though when I spoke with
23 them, they had told me that they were going to be here, and
24 I did fax them their itineraries the same day I faxed all
25 of you your itineraries. But we have not heard, Terry has
26 not heard, and we've been waiting, but I don't know what's
27 going on.

28
29 MS. DEGNAN: Probably weathered out or.....

30
31 MS. EAKON: I don't know.

32
33 MS. DEGNAN: Yeah. Uh-huh. And Francis
34 Degnan, present. We have six present, Madam Chair, and we
35 have a quorum.

36
37 MS. EAKON: Yeah, a quorum is established.

38
39 CHAIR CROSS: Thank you, Secretary Degnan.
40 I want to welcome everybody that came to this meeting
41 today. As you know, we had a delay because of our weather
42 patterns in our region. I'd like everybody to introduce
43 themselves. I'm Grace Cross, the chair person of the RAC,
44 and we can go.....

45
46 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: That direction.

47
48 MR. KOBUK: Okay. I'm Leonard Kobuk, I
49 represent St. Michaels and Stebbins.

50

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1 MS. DOWNING: Meredith Downing, court
2 reporter.
3
4 MS. DEGNAN: Francis Degnan, Unalakleet.
5
6 MR. MENDENHALL: Perry Mendenhall,
7 Sitnasok, Nome.
8
9 MS. MCBURNEY: Mary McBurney, National Park
10 Service.
11
12 MR. BOYD: Tom Boyd, Fish and Wildlife
13 Service.
14
15 MR. CANNON: Richard Cannon, Fish and
16 Wildlife Service.
17
18 MR. MESSENGER: Norm Messenger, Bureau of
19 Land Management.
20
21 MR. ADKISSON: Ken Adkisson, Subsistence
22 Program Coordinator for Western Arctic National Park Lands,
23 Nome, Alaska.
24
25 MR. RABINOWITCH: Sandy Rabinowitch with
26 the National Park Service.
27
28 MS. HANNON: Bob Hannon, guide/outfitter,
29 and resident of Koyuk.
30
31 MR. ANASOGAK: Oscar Anasogak, Junior, from
32 Koyuk.
33
34 MR. NASSUK: Morris Nassuk from Koyuk.
35
36 MR. FOOTE: Bob Foote from Unalakleet, and
37 welcome, everybody, to Unalakleet, even in the snow.
38
39 MS. EAKON: Okay.
40
41 MS. DEWHURST: Donna Dewhurst, Fish and
42 Wildlife Service.
43
44 MS. EAKON: Helga Eakon, Fish and Wildlife
45 Service, and present regional coordinator.
46
47 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Present.
48
49 MR. BUCK: Peter Buck, representing White
50 Mountain, Golovin and Nome.

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1 MR. ROOKOK: Preston Rookok, Savoonga.

2

3 CHAIR CROSS: Thank you. The next item on
4 our agenda is review and adoption of agenda.

5

6 MS. EAKON: Madam Chair, if I may?

7

8 CHAIR CROSS: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

9

10 MS. EAKON: I already passed out a little
11 piece of paper that details what the fisheries management
12 presentation is going to be, and right now Fred Tocktoo is
13 making copies of the in-season management paper, the tribal
14 involvement paper, and the uniform fisheries monitoring
15 program status paper, so you will have those in your hand
16 shortly.

17

18 And also, if you turn the page, Jake Olanna and
19 some elders are going to be calling in tomorrow at ten
20 o'clock, and they want to speak specifically to Proposal
21 53, which is a request to allow herding of caribou with a
22 snow machine in Unit 22. And since the elders are involved
23 in the Elders Conference currently going on in Nome, we had
24 to set a time, and that's how come I said, well, how about
25 ten o'clock.

26

27 Also, Charlie Lean and Kate Persons should be in
28 route from Nome, and they will be joined by Fred DeCicco,
29 sport fish biologist.

30

31 And I think that's all I have for explanations,
32 Madam Chair.

33

34 CHAIR CROSS: Thank you very much. Are
35 there any additions to the agenda?

36

37 MR. MENDENHALL: I move for adoption as
38 amended.

39

40 MS. DEGNAN: Second.

41

42 MR. BUCK: Question.

43

44 CHAIR CROSS: The question has been called
45 -- oh, discussion?

46

47 MR. MENDENHALL: Question.

48

49 CHAIR CROSS: All those in favor signify by
50 saying aye?

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1 IN UNISON: Aye.

2

3 CHAIR CROSS: All those opposed, same sign?

4

5 (No opposing votes.)

6

7 CHAIR CROSS: The motion carries. Okay.

8 Review and adoption of minutes of public meeting of October

9 8th to 9, 1999, and that was the one that we held -- we

10 started out in Shishmaref, and then we moved to Nome. We

11 had much discussion about this this morning, and we have

12 made some additions or corrections.

13

14 MS. EAKON: You need to.....

15

16 MR. MENDENHALL: Well, should we go page by

17 page?

18

19 MS. EAKON: You need to make sure that you

20 use the one that's not bound in the book. Use the one that

21 was loose leaf in your book, because that's the one where

22 an agency person had corrections, and so I amended -- oh,

23 it was Randy Meyers had corrections, so I revised the

24 version that's in your book to this. And there are extra

25 copies there at -- where Mary's sitting if you do not have

26 the loose leaf one.

27

28 MR. MENDENHALL: We did that already.

29

30 MS. DEGNAN: Uh-huh.

31

32 CHAIR CROSS: We were using this, some.....

33

34 MR. MENDENHALL: Yeah. I -- Yeah,.....

35

36 CHAIR CROSS:of us were using

37 this,.....

38

39 MR. MENDENHALL:what we did.....

40

41 CHAIR CROSS:and some of us were

42 using the other.

43

44 MS. EAKON: Okay.

45

46 MR. MENDENHALL: I didn't do the one in the

47 book.

48

49 MS. EAKON: Okay. Good. Okay.

50

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1 MR. MENDENHALL: I -- should we go page by
2 page as we did this morning, since it will be quicker?

3
4 CHAIR CROSS: Sure.

5
6 MS. EAKON: Okay.

7
8 MR. MENDENHALL: Page one.

9
10 CHAIR CROSS: Page one, are there any
11 corrections on page one?

12
13 MR. MENDENHALL: There's no corrections to
14 that one.

15
16 CHAIR CROSS: Page two.

17
18 MR. MENDENHALL: There were no corrections
19 noted on that one during our work session.

20
21 CHAIR CROSS: Page three. On page three,
22 one, two, three, four lines down, Trooper Todd, and I can
23 never pronounce his last name, it starts with an M. It's
24 kind of.....

25
26 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Mahodgek.

27
28 CHAIR CROSS: Mahodgek. Called and said
29 that he would like a correction noted, that when he talked
30 to me, he told me that he was not getting much cooperation
31 from local individuals, and not guides.

32
33 MS. EAKON: Okay. Because that's what it
34 says in the min- -- in the transcript, which I went by.

35
36 CHAIR CROSS: Uh-huh. I probably said the
37 word guides instead of local individuals.

38
39 MS. EAKON: Okay. Okay. Change guides to
40 local individuals.

41
42 CHAIR CROSS: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

43
44 MS. EAKON: Okay.

45
46 MR. MENDENHALL: Also, halfway down, over
47 halfway down in that paragraph where it says Perry
48 Mendenhall stated, it should be capitalized, motion, broad
49 type like, or a heading. And it's -- the motion
50 acknowledged Koyuk by making a -- supporting their efforts.

00008

1 And it also ends just.....

2

3 MS. EAKON: Okay. So the motion is.....

4

5 MR. MENDENHALL:there -- where

6 Leonard seconded the motion.

7

8 MS. EAKON: Okay. The motion was to

9 support their efforts?

10

11 MR. MENDENHALL: Right. And then Leonard

12 is -- broad type -- bold type, motion, so we could see it

13 without looking for it,.....

14

15 MS. EAKON: Okay.

16

17 MR. MENDENHALL:because this is an

18 action item.

19

20 MS. EAKON: That's correct. Okay.

21

22 MR. MENDENHALL: And then the action that

23 was taken. Motion passed unanimously would be the end of

24 that motion.

25

26 MS. EAKON: Okay.

27

28 MR. MENDENHALL: And also down where Cliff

29 Edenshaw, it should be bold type, special action request,

30 and that was by -- to open a caribou hunt. That was a

31 request.

32

33 MS. EAKON: Okay.

34

35 MR. MENDENHALL: And then -- that's a

36 request. And then the next paragraph, public testimony

37 should be bold type and -- so you won't have to look for it

38 where it starts on public testimony.

39

40 MS. EAKON: Okay.

41

42 MR. MENDENHALL: And that's enough for page

43 three, unless there's more?

44

45 CHAIR CROSS: No. Page four at the bottom.

46 One, two -- one, two, three, four lines up is Sinuk. It

47 should be S-e-n-i-k.

48

49 MS. EAKON: S-e-n-i-k.

50

00009

1 CHAIR CROSS: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

2
3 MS. EAKON: Okay.

4
5 CHAIR CROSS: And a line down from that,
6 Sitnasauk, it's S-i-n-a-z-u-k.

7
8 MS. EAKON: Wait, wait, wait. Instead of
9 Sitnasauk, it should be?

10
11 CHAIR CROSS: S-i-n-a-z-u-k.

12
13 MS. EAKON: Okay. Gotcha.

14
15 MR. MENDENHALL: Also, where it says --
16 halfway through, bold type the speakers, like Edward
17 Olanna. That should be bold type. Also Richard Kuzugak
18 should be bold type in that paragraph. And Jake Olanna
19 after Madame Chair Cross asked that Jake -- should be --
20 strike out the Madam Chair Cross asked, and just say Jake
21 Olanna thought. Should be bold type, Jake Olanna, so we
22 know who the speaker is. Also where Luci Eningowuk in the
23 last paragraph, page four, should be bold type, 'cause
24 it.....

25
26 CHAIR CROSS: What we've concluded, that
27 all the people that testimonied [sic], that -- beginning on
28 from page three, that their names should be in bold,
29 beginning from page two, beginning of public comment.

30
31 MR. MENDENHALL: And then perhaps some of
32 the topic that they talk about, like muskox should be --
33 because some refer to brown bear, some to muskox, some to
34 caribou, so we can know what they made comments on without
35 looking for it. So Johnson Eningowuk, Edward Olanna, Tom,
36 Karen, Johnson Eningowuk again, Kate Persons, and.....

37
38 CHAIR CROSS: We're at page five.

39
40 MR. MENDENHALL:where they could be
41 bold type, yeah.

42
43 MS. EAKON: Okay.

44
45 CHAIR CROSS: Page six. And it looks like
46 right after -- the second paragraph from Cliff Edenshaw
47 gave an example of what happened on Kodiak Island. The
48 Chair asked if anyone had questions for Ms. Sinnok, we
49 wanted her first name put in.

50

00010

1 MR. MENDENHALL: They should start off with
2 Mrs. Karen Sinnok.

3
4 CHAIR CROSS: And then the Chair.....

5
6 MS. EAKON: Wait. Where are you?

7
8 MR. MENDENHALL: Page six.

9
10 MS. EAKON: Okay.

11
12 MR. MENDENHALL: And it should be titled
13 muskox, because that's what the topic is.

14
15 MS. EAKON: Okay.

16
17 MR. MENDENHALL: At the -- somewhere bold
18 in like public testimony it would be muskox.

19
20 CHAIR CROSS: And then.....

21
22 MR. MENDENHALL: And there's.....

23
24 CHAIR CROSS:right -- the Chair
25 recognized Davis Sockpick. There's a "muxkox" in there.

26
27 MR. MENDENHALL: Under the David Sockpick
28 paragraph.

29
30 CHAIR CROSS: Muskox, just a spelling
31 correction.....

32
33 MR. MENDENHALL: Yeah.

34
35 CHAIR CROSS:on muskox.

36
37 MR. MENDENHALL: Dave Sockpick should be
38 bold type. Jake Olanna should be bold type.

39
40 CHAIR CROSS: Page seven.

41
42 MR. MENDENHALL: That's six.

43
44 CHAIR CROSS: No, we're on to page seven.

45
46 MR. MENDENHALL: Madam Chair, a heading of
47 caribou should be put in bold type there, and where --
48 Daniel Iyatunguk, bold type.

49
50 MS. EAKON: Uh-huh.

00011

1 MR. MENDENHALL: Frank Ongtowasruk, because
2 that that's -- all topic is caribou. And then reports,
3 that third paragraph should be entitled reports, starting
4 with Ken Adkissen being introduced to where.....

5
6 MS. EAKON: Right.

7
8 MR. MENDENHALL: And the last paragraph of
9 Ken Adkissen on page seven needs to be bold type, because
10 that's his report.

11
12 CHAIR CROSS: Page eight.

13
14 MR. MENDENHALL: And page eight, where
15 Johnson Eningowuk, bold type should be Bering Land Bridge-
16 slash-muskox. Bold type so that we could know what
17 Johnson's talking about.

18
19 MS. EAKON: I will give this to your next
20 coordinator.

21
22 MR. MENDENHALL: David Sockpick had a
23 question. It should be bold type. Nellie Weyiouanna had a
24 question, should be bold type.

25
26 MR. ROOKOK: Elmer Seetot, Jr., was that
27 it, or Elmer Seetot, Sr.? After.....

28
29 MR. MENDENHALL: Where?

30
31 MR. ROOKOK: After the two groups, Elmer
32 Seetot asked about land selected but not conveyed.

33
34 MR. MENDENHALL: Where are you?

35
36 MR. ROOKOK: That big long paragraph on
37 top, or right above October 1st.

38
39 CHAIR CROSS: Oh, Elmer? Okay.

40
41 MR. ROOKOK: Was that junior or senior
42 talking? Probably Elmer Seetot, Jr.?

43
44 MS. EAKON: The one on the council?

45
46 MR. ROOKOK: Yeah.

47
48 MS. EAKON: That's junior, yeah.

49
50 MR. ROOKOK: Okay.

00012

1 MR. MENDENHALL: That should be a separate
2 paragraph altogether where Elmer asked that question.

3
4 CHAIR CROSS: Page nine,.....

5
6 MS. EAKON: Okay.

7
8 CHAIR CROSS:about.....

9
10 MR. MENDENHALL: It should be bold face,
11 BLM reports, and then bold faced Jeff Denton so that we
12 know who's talking, giving that report.

13
14 CHAIR CROSS: And there's a typo, Perry
15 Mendenhall asked "bout". About the Koyuk situation. The
16 "a" is missing.

17
18 MS. EAKON: Okay.

19
20 MR. MENDENHALL: And Charlie Lean should be
21 bold face with his report. Randy Meyers, BLM, bold face.
22 Nora Magazruk should be bold face.

23
24 CHAIR CROSS: Nora Kuzugak.

25
26 MS. DEGNAN: Nora Kuzugak.

27
28 MR. MENDENHALL: I mean Kuzugak.

29
30 CHAIR CROSS: Page ten.

31
32 MR. MENDENHALL: Kate Persons should be
33 bold type.

34
35 MS. EAKON: Wait, I'm still on Nora. Where
36 is Nora?

37
38 MS. DEGNAN: She's on page ten.

39
40 MS. EAKON: Okay.

41
42 MR. MENDENHALL: Bottom paragraph.

43
44 MS. EAKON: Okay. Right there. I was on
45 page nine. All right.

46
47 MR. MENDENHALL: Because it's her statement
48 that we're going into.

49
50 MS. EAKON: Okay.

00013

1 MR. MENDENHALL: Kate Persons should be,
2 and Alaska Department of Fish and Game should be bold type.

3
4 MS. DEGNAN: And Bering Air.

5
6 MR. MENDENHALL: And then Proposal 14 and
7 15 should be bold type. And Bering Air should be bold type
8 on that.....

9
10 MS. DEGNAN: Recess.

11
12 MR. MENDENHALL: For recess.

13
14 MS. DEGNAN: For recess.

15
16 MS. EAKON: Okay. Let's see.

17
18 CHAIR CROSS: We're still on page eight or
19 -- I mean, page.....

20
21 MR. MENDENHALL: The middle of.....

22
23 MS. DEGNAN: We're on ten.

24
25 MR. MENDENHALL:page ten. Yeah,
26 Bering Air, recess.

27
28 CHAIR CROSS: Okay. Quickly go back to
29 page eight and capitalize Teller.

30
31 MR. MENDENHALL: Where?

32
33 CHAIR CROSS: At the second paragraph up.
34 Davis Sockpick, Johnson Eningowuk, and residents of Brevig
35 Mission and Teller. Teller needs to be capitalized.

36
37 MS. DEGNAN: Right here.

38
39 MS. EAKON: I don't know which part --
40 Where are you guys at?

41
42 MS. DEGNAN: Page eight.

43
44 MR. ROOKOK: Page eight.

45
46 MS. DEGNAN: Page eight, it's the.....

47
48 MR. MENDENHALL: One, two, third.....

49
50 MS. DEGNAN:second paragraph.....

00014

1 MR. MENDENHALL:the third paragraph
2 from the bottom, up.....

3
4 CHAIR CROSS: Yeah, the third paragraph.

5
6 MS. EAKON: Okay. All right.

7
8 CHAIR CROSS: Page 11.

9
10 MR. MENDENHALL: Oh, page ten, at the
11 bottom, on October 9th, where fisheries implementation, Tom
12 Boyd apologized that Donna Dewhurst, Helen and Armstrong
13 and he were not, it should be.

14
15 MS. DEGNAN: Yeah.

16
17 MR. MENDENHALL: That it should be
18 apologized that, scratch out he, and then that Donna, Helen
19 and he were unable. That's just a grammar correction.

20
21 CHAIR CROSS: Page 11.

22
23 MR. MENDENHALL: At the bottom of the --
24 the last paragraph, it should be a paragraph where Frances
25 Degnan commented, because it is separate from what I
26 started out with.

27
28 MS. EAKON: Okay.

29
30 MR. MENDENHALL: That's all to that one.

31
32 CHAIR CROSS: Wait, which one did you say?
33 The bottom of what?

34
35 MS. DEGNAN: Eleven, bottom of 11.

36
37 MR. MENDENHALL: The bottom of 11.

38
39 MS. DEGNAN: Just separate.....

40
41 MR. KOBUK: (Indiscernible - simultaneous
42 speech)

43
44 MS. DEGNAN:what Perry said, and what
45 I said.

46
47 MR. KOBUK: Right.

48
49 CHAIR CROSS: Oh, we're in -- you're
50 looking at the book, right?

00015

1 MS. DEGNAN: No.

2
3 MR. KOBUK: No.

4
5 MS. DEGNAN: No, in the separate.....

6
7 MR. KOBUK: It's right there in the.....

8
9 MR. MENDENHALL: Where it says Frances
10 Degnan commented, user groups.

11
12 MS. DEGNAN: And it should be a new
13 paragraph.

14
15 MR. ROOKOK: Yeah, you've got the revised
16 version I think. This is a revised version,
17 (indiscernible) I think we decided on that page.

18
19 CHAIR CROSS: Page 12.

20
21 MR. BUCK: Well, I can't add here.

22
23 CHAIR CROSS: Okay. Page 12.

24
25 MR. MENDENHALL: That first paragraph on
26 the top of page 12, there should be bold face, title,
27 native entities, so that goes into that topic. But there
28 was a question on clarifying the third -- fourth sentence.
29 "The Chair has is something different would be done for the
30 region." That's -- we don't know what -- how that is to be
31 implied.

32
33 MS. EAKON: In terms of cooperative
34 agreements, you're -- that's what you were talking about.

35
36 MR. MENDENHALL: What?

37
38 CHAIR CROSS: On the second -- it looked
39 like the second paragraph from the top, the Chair asked if
40 what has been done with native entities in the region. And
41 then about one, two, three, four.....

42
43 MR. MENDENHALL: Fourth sentence.

44
45 CHAIR CROSS:sentences down, it says
46 "The Chair has is something different to be done."

47
48 MS. EAKON: Asked. That should be asked.

49
50 CHAIR CROSS: Okay.

00016

1 MR. MENDENHALL: Well, what is that
2 referring to? I mean, we don't know what it's referring
3 to.

4
5 MS. EAKON: You guys were talking about
6 cooperative agreements.

7
8 CHAIR CROSS: Okay.

9
10 MR. MENDENHALL: Okay.

11
12 MR. KOBUK: Amongst the (indiscernible).

13
14 MR. MENDENHALL: And then the next
15 paragraph should identify Area M, Bristol Bay to AYK boat
16 type so we can know that that was a topic discussed.

17
18 MS. EAKON: Okay.

19
20 MR. MENDENHALL: And one, two, three, third
21 paragraph, After Unalakleet, A-N-D.

22
23 CHAIR CROSS: And some rivers near Nome.

24
25 MS. EAKON: And some rivers, okay.

26
27 CHAIR CROSS: Uh-huh. Page 13.

28
29 MR. BUCK: On page 13, on the
30 extraterritorial jurisdiction, about halfway down, one,
31 two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten, 11,
32 12, it says, "it is important to note that these powers
33 have rarely been applied by the Secretaries." That's
34 talking about extraterritorial jurisdiction. We'd like --
35 I'd like the council to work on more of the procedures for
36 extraterritorial jurisdictions, so that -- since it's
37 rarely applied, that we have a complete process where we
38 can get this extraterritorial jurisdiction,.....

39
40 MS. EAKON: Okay.

41
42 MR. BUCK:especially for Area M, Mr.
43 Boyd.

44
45 MS. EAKON: You got that? They want to
46 know what's going on with the draft procedures for
47 extra.....

48
49 MR. BOYD: Okay.

50

00017

1 MS. EAKON:territorial jurisdiction.

2

3

4 MR. BUCK: Okay.

5

6 MR. MENDENHALL: There should be also a
7 title in there that says ANILCA-slash-protocols, where
8 Madam Chair asked Tom Boyd. That second paragraph. It
9 should be protocol-slash-ANILCA, 'cause that's showing that
10 we are looking at protocols in ANILCA. And we -- before
11 Mr. Boyd clarified to Mrs. Degnan, that should be a
12 separate paragraph in that. That way it would point out to
13 ANILCA.

14

15 CHAIR CROSS: Page 14.

16

17 MR. MENDENHALL: Oh, 13, middle of the last
18 paragraph, extraterritorial jurisdiction, if there are
19 extreme circumstances, it should be in bold type, extreme
20 circumstances. Then if there are extreme circumstances
21 with fishery resources being depleted, it would show that
22 we have discussed extreme circumstances.

23

24 CHAIR CROSS: Page 14.

25

26 MS. EAKON: Wait, where is extreme -- oh, I
27 see. Yeah, gotcha.

28

29 MR. MENDENHALL: It should be bold type,
30 just to show that we covered extreme.....

31

32 MS. EAKON: Right.

33

34 MR. MENDENHALL: And page 14?

35

36 CHAIR CROSS: Fourteen.

37

38 MR. MENDENHALL: That paragraph should have
39 bold type, Katie John, on that paragraph alone.

40

41 MS. EAKON: Okay.

42

43 MR. MENDENHALL: And where Charlie Lean on
44 the second paragraph, bold type, should be migratory
45 concern regarding fish going upriver. And then at the
46 bottom of regulatory process,.....

47

48 MS. EAKON: Uh-huh.

49

50 MR. MENDENHALL: There's two regulations

00018

1 misspelled. Terms. The term regulation misspelled. Under
2 the third sentence up from the bottom. Regulations,
3 regulations. Spell check didn't catch that.

4
5 MS. EAKON: Where? I don't see any
6 misspelling.

7
8 MR. MENDENHALL: The third sentence up from
9 the bottom. These two.

10
11 MS. DEGNAN: It's.....

12
13 MR. ROOKOK: Regulations, where's the.....

14
15 MS. EAKON: Yes.

16
17 MR. ROOKOK:regulation, there's two
18 regulations.

19
20 MS. EAKON: This one's correct.

21
22 MS. DEGNAN: This one's correct.

23
24 MR. ROOKOK: Oh, this version is correct.

25
26 MS. DEGNAN: This is correct.

27
28 MS. EAKON: Yeah, this.....

29
30 MS. DEGNAN: Yeah, this is.....

31
32 MS. EAKON:my version's correct.

33
34 MS. DEGNAN: Yeah, this one is correct.

35
36 MR. MENDENHALL: Okay. Fifteen?

37
38 CHAIR CROSS: Fifteen.

39
40 MS. DEGNAN: I had one on 15.

41
42 MR. MENDENHALL: Okay.

43
44 MR. BUCK: I'd like on the customary trade,
45 that include customary trade and sharing.

46
47 MS. EAKON: You want customary trade and
48 sharing as a topic? Okay.

49
50 MR. MENDENHALL: There's -- within that

00019

1 customary trade is Charlie Lean asked if tradesman, and
2 that should be entitled bold face tradesman, because we're
3 addressing that term in the regulations. That should be a
4 paragraph all to itself on the tradesman.

5
6 MS. EAKON: Okay.

7
8 MR. MENDENHALL: And then Charlie Lean
9 again discussing commercial harvest. It should be
10 commercial harvest, bold face, before that paragraph.

11
12 MS. EAKON: Okay.

13
14 MR. MENDENHALL: And back up to the top of
15 15 where it says limit Kobuk, St. Michael should be
16 addressed there, because I think we were addressing St.
17 Michael's c&t.

18
19 MR. KOBUK: Yes.

20
21 MR. MENDENHALL: St. Michael's c&t on the
22 -- and it should be bold typed and then Leonard Kobuk would
23 have a separate paragraph all to that, so -- to St. Michael
24 c&t.

25
26 MS. EAKON: All right.

27
28 MR. MENDENHALL: That takes care of 15.

29
30 CHAIR CROSS: Sixteen?

31
32 MR. MENDENHALL: Sixteen, there's three
33 paragraphs identified on the top. Going back to
34 definitions, trader over tradesman, and that should be --
35 it could be definitions.

36
37 MS. EAKON: Okay.

38
39 MR. MENDENHALL: And another paragraph
40 again when Frances Degnan -- dealing with weather
41 definition. Charlie Lean, again he's addressing commercial
42 fishing. That's another paragraph. So there should be
43 three paragraphs at that top section.

44
45 CHAIR CROSS: Seventeen.

46
47 MR. MENDENHALL: Seventeen. There's a
48 motion made. It should be capitalized, motion.

49
50 MS. EAKON: Okay.

00020

1 MR. MENDENHALL: Frances Degnan moved that
2 this regulation be eliminated. Supposed to be a positive
3 motion.

4
5 MS. DEGNAN: Right.

6
7 MR. MENDENHALL: And where Leonard seconded
8 the motion, period. The motion passed unanimously. That's
9 a motion, it should be identified separately all by itself.

10
11 CHAIR CROSS: And at a later point, we also
12 need to discuss this.

13
14 MR. MENDENHALL: Oh, on the first sentence,
15 meat.

16
17 MR. ROOKOK: Mean spoils meat.

18
19 MR. MENDENHALL: It says, "male sex organs
20 attached to the mean spoils the meat."

21
22 MS. EAKON: Okay. Okay. Okay.

23
24 CHAIR CROSS: That is the mean what.
25 Attached to the meat. Attached to the mean.

26
27 MS. EAKON: Okay.

28
29 MR. MENDENHALL: Migratory birds. There
30 was going to be asked clarification to this regarding to
31 the council issues. It should recognize regional advisory
32 councils instead of council. The same with the -- where it
33 says council, council, it should be regional advisory
34 council.

35
36 MS. EAKON: All right.

37
38 MR. MENDENHALL: But there's some questions
39 from Grace and them regarding the migratory bird situation
40 here.

41
42 CHAIR CROSS: We want to put that back in
43 old business or something and discuss it a little bit, not
44 now, but.....

45
46 MS. EAKON: It's going to be in your --
47 probably your agenda for your next meeting, because there's
48 not no update from migratory birds at this point.

49
50 CHAIR CROSS: Okay.

00021

1 MS. EAKON: Okay?

2

3 MR. MENDENHALL: There needs to be, under
4 ADF&G report in the middle of that page, 17, motion,
5 Leonard Kobuk moved that similar proposal be submitted,
6 Frances Degnan seconded the motion, which is a motion.
7 That needs to be separate because it's a motion item. And
8 I believe that's where Proposal 53 came out of.

9

10 MS. DEGNAN: Uh-huh.

11

12 CHAIR CROSS: Page 18.

13

14 MR. BUCK: On page 18, on the third
15 paragraph down, and this is -- there's Charlie Lean said
16 that if the legislation passed, roughly \$5 million towards
17 salmon research and management in Norton Sound area will be
18 available. And at the end of that paragraph, this --
19 there's money for coded wire tag study. It includes all
20 those things that was being done with this money. Saying
21 that the extraterritorial jurisdiction situation should be
22 studied then, too. See that that's included. The
23 extraterritorial processes that we have to go through
24 to.....

25

26 CHAIR CROSS: On page 18, second paragraph
27 from Charlie Lean announced that northern Bristol Bay.

28

29 MS. EAKON: Yeah, I know, I caught that.
30 There -- it needs an "n".

31

32 CHAIR CROSS: Okay.

33

34 MS. EAKON: Tom, what they're referring to
35 is in Charlie Lean's report, he had said they would
36 encourage National Marine Fishery Service to do more
37 research concerning ocean factors that affect salmon,
38 because this decline is in chum salmon and other salmon
39 seems to be oceanwide, not just in the northern -- I mean,
40 in the Norton Sound. And Peter Buck is asking what.....

41

42 MR. BUCK: That the extraterritorial
43 processes that we have to follow in order to get.....

44

45 MS. EAKON: Yeah, they just want.....

46

47 MR. BUCK:this territorial
48 jurisdiction,.....

49

50 MS. EAKON: Yeah, they just.....

00022

1 MR. BUCK:that this process be
2 included with that, if it can -- if it can be included with
3 that money.

4
5 MS. DEGNAN: Well, what -- I think what --
6 Madam Chair, what Mr. Buck is talking to is an issue to be
7 identified for annual report.

8
9 MS. EAKON: Okay. That would be real good.

10
11
12 MS. DEGNAN: Uh-huh.

13
14 MS. EAKON: Okay.

15
16 CHAIR CROSS: For annual report, and we
17 have a little section in our agenda for Area M fisheries,
18 and others. High seas fisheries. Page 19.

19
20 MR. MENDENHALL: Okay. Tier II needs to be
21 put in the title of the chairs discussed declining salmon,
22 because this is a Tier II system. It should be bold faced
23 in that, 'cause -- to show that it was discussed. And
24 somewhere there's supposed to be a lawyer's determination
25 on the issue of federal intervention in that paragraph,
26 where it says Tier II system. Second paragraph. So this
27 -- it's supposed to have a lawyer's research by today.

28
29 MS. EAKON: Yeah, that's what was promised
30 to the chairs at their joint meeting, that the Solicitor
31 would research the issue of federal intervention. And
32 you're just saying that there is to be a follow up to this?

33
34 MR. MENDENHALL: Yeah. But it should be
35 bold faced, Tier II system.

36
37 MS. EAKON: Right. I got that.

38
39 MR. MENDENHALL: Okay. Other than that,
40 it's okay.

41
42 CHAIR CROSS: Except for one last comment,
43 one, two, three, the third paragraph, the Chair found the
44 proposals asking for individual c&t determinations to be
45 interesting. We'd like to have a short discussion from you
46 at some point as to -- and explain individual c&t, now that
47 process came about and what is it about, and how can one
48 get one.

49
50 MR. MENDENHALL: Whether it's been

00023

1 historical for thousands of years or just 50 years or 20
2 years.

3
4 CHAIR CROSS: Just some discussion sometime
5 today, maybe in our training session.

6
7 MS. EAKON: Okay. We can leave that for
8 training.

9
10 MR. MENDENHALL: I move for adoption of the
11 minutes as amended.

12
13 MS. DEGNAN: Second.

14
15 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Question.

16
17 MS. EAKON: Okay. Thank you.

18
19 CHAIR CROSS: The question has been -- a
20 motion to adopt the minutes as amended has been called --
21 the question had been called. All those in favor signify
22 by stating aye?

23
24 IN UNISON: Aye.

25
26 CHAIR CROSS: All those opposed, same sign?

27
28 (No opposing votes.)

29
30 CHAIR CROSS: Motion carries. Okay.
31 Number.....

32
33 MS. EAKON: Who moved and who seconded?

34
35 MS. DEGNAN: Perry.

36
37 CHAIR CROSS: Perry moved.

38
39 MR. MENDENHALL: Oh, Perry.

40
41 MS. DEGNAN: I seconded.

42
43 MR. MENDENHALL: And seconded by Fran.

44
45 MS. EAKON: Okay. Thank you.

46
47 CHAIR CROSS: Okay. We're now to number
48 six, public testimony. Normally we take public testimony
49 all throughout our meetings, and there are some forms that
50 need to be filled out.....

00024

1 MR. MENDENHALL: The blue cards.

2

3 CHAIR CROSS:over there, and if we --
4 if somebody has a pressing need to go, or need to go
5 outside of the proposal that you're going to be discussing,
6 they may ask to be heard first, or you can come up when the
7 proposal comes up. I can see no hands, so just go on and
8 continue.

9

10 MS. DEGNAN: Madam Chair, the blue.....

11

12 MR. MENDENHALL: Blue cards.

13

14 MS. DEGNAN:the blue card.....

15

16 CHAIR CROSS: There's a blue form there.

17 There's.....

18

19 MS. DEGNAN: If you want to address the
20 council, there's a blue card you fill out.

21

22 MR. MENDENHALL: These things.

23

24 CHAIR CROSS: Yes, we've already.....

25

26 MS. DEGNAN: They already.....

27

28 CHAIR CROSS: Yeah, those were already
29 passed out,.....

30

31 MS. DEGNAN: Okay.

32

33 CHAIR CROSS:and there already are
34 some blue cards that have been filled out.

35

36 MS. DEGNAN: Okay.

37

38 CHAIR CROSS: Old business, report of the
39 meeting of reindeer/caribou group of Shishmaref, Alaska on
40 November 15th. I'll do a quick report on that.

41

42 Based on the discussions that we had at our meeting
43 and at -- during our Shishmaref meeting,.....

44

45 MR. MENDENHALL: That's Tab D in mine.

46

47 MS. DEGNAN: Uh-huh.

48

49 MR. KOBUK: Yeah, Tab D. D.

50

00025

1 CHAIR CROSS: Okay. You'll see, A, the
2 report of their meeting of the caribou. Very briefly,
3 after our meeting, we had a response to the concerns that
4 the public, caribou hunters and reindeer herders had. I
5 met with Ken Adkissen, Fred, Jake Olanna, Royce Bostick,
6 and we talked about what we were going to do, because of
7 what -- there was a user conflict, and we started
8 organizing a meeting, which did occur on November 15th,
9 '99. We invited Willie Goodwin from Northwest Arctic RAC
10 to chair that meeting, to coordinate that meeting, mainly
11 because we felt that because there are RAC members in that
12 region that would like to hunt, it -- the appearance might
13 not go too well for one of us to chair it, and nobody in
14 Kawerak was willing to, because Reindeer Herders
15 Association was there, so when we asked Willie, he gladly
16 came, and that was probably the best move that we made,
17 because he was excellent at the meeting.

18
19 The outcome was that the villagers and the rein- --
20 the subsistence hunters and the reindeer herders, with
21 input from and asked -- there were questions being answered
22 from people who participated, came up with their own
23 solution as to what they wanted to do. They identified an
24 area where caribou hunting can occur, and they picked out a
25 date when that would occur, giving the reindeer herders a
26 chance to move their reindeer. So the outcome is very
27 good. I understand that they're hunting now, and they're
28 happy with it. And that's it on that meeting.

29
30 Old business, B, draft annual report, Helga Eakon.

31
32 MS. EAKON: Eakon.

33
34 CHAIR CROSS: Eakon.

35
36 MS. EAKON: Eakon.

37
38 MR. MENDENHALL: And that's tab E.

39
40 MS. EAKON: Yeah, tab E. Do you have any
41 issues firmed up? Because we could finish this during your
42 training session when we come to training.

43
44 MS. DEGNAN: Yes, we identified.....

45
46 MS. EAKON: Okay. Okay.

47
48 MS. DEGNAN:issues. So do you want
49 them now or later?

50

00026

1 MS. EAKON: Just give me the issue.

2

3 MS. DEGNAN: Okay. The issue number one is
4 purely process, is recording and we've demonstrated what
5 our wishes are in the corrections of this last minutes, and
6 that's in the format where the reader can identify what the
7 topic is, and we credit to whom the testimony was or
8 discussion was initiated by.

9

10 And the next one would be extraterritorial
11 jurisdiction. We need to stress that our salmon are
12 migratory, and we have all these rivers that are homes for
13 these migratory fish, and we need to know what's happening
14 to them, because they aren't returning as they should.

15

16 MR. MENDENHALL: This also brings in Area
17 M, high sea intercept.

18

19 MS. DEGNAN: High sea. That whole area,
20 which goes into the extraterritorial jurisdiction as far as
21 we're concerned, and that there are different users and
22 there is potential conflict where the remaining salmon are.
23 There is sportsman's interests, there's a commercial
24 fishermen's interest, and then there's a subsistence user
25 interest in this region. So those are ones, and in terms
26 of what.....

27

28 What were the other?

29

30 CHAIR CROSS: There were two others. The
31 placement of the fisheries staff.

32

33 MS. DEGNAN: Uh-huh. (Affirmative) And
34 then the coordinator.

35

36 CHAIR CROSS: And the coordinator, the new
37 coordinator. We would like -- we would like the new
38 quarter (sic) to placed -- new coordinator to be placed
39 within our region for a number of reasons, one being that
40 it's very difficult to have -- for us to have a meeting and
41 in trying to get -- at least if we had a coordinator within
42 our region, we would be able to start our meetings in time,
43 because that person would be able to travel with us. We
44 had this problem for a number of years where, you know,
45 people get stuck in Anchorage, and we either pass on the
46 meeting, or have to move it elsewhere because of our
47 weather and travel restraints.

48

49 Number two is that we have a concern that North
50 Slope, Northwest and Norton Sound are being lumped

00027

1 together. It appeared -- appears to be lumped together
2 with Aleutian/Pribilofs, and Kodiak, and Bristol Bay as one
3 management unit. Maybe somebody can clarify that later on
4 if that's not the situation, but in looking at the papers
5 that are coming out of Anchorage, it appears that we are
6 being lumped with them. We have serious concerns about
7 that, because we are now predominantly subsistence area
8 being lumped up a predominantly commercial area. In the
9 long run, I think that our region along with North Slope
10 and North Slope's rural -- North Slope and Northwest would
11 be the ones to be the least given attention to.

12
13 MS. DEGNAN: And the other issue is in
14 terms of how do we reach our constituency, so that they
15 feel that they are being represented adequately, and that
16 is through communications, and that in each community, the
17 three groups that are -- should be noticed are the
18 municipality, the nat -- local corporation, and the tribal
19 council, that they all need to be noticed. If -- for any
20 communications in the -- that -- because it's really
21 important for the users to have access to the council, who
22 then in turn can represent their interest to the Federal
23 Subsistence Board. And.....

24
25 MR. MENDENHALL: And the regional advisory
26 council you're referring to.

27
28 MS. DEGNAN: Yeah, the -- I'm talking
29 about.....

30
31 MR. MENDENHALL: Yeah. Right.

32
33 MS. DEGNAN:the regional advisory
34 council can represent their constituency well to the
35 Federal Subsistence Board. That way we won't have anybody
36 saying that they didn't get the information, and just rely
37 on the appointed council member to -- it just assists in
38 the process. So we.....

39
40 MS. EAKON: They were never -- Madam Chair?

41
42 CHAIR CROSS: Yes.

43
44 MS. EAKON: These three entities were never
45 included in your mailings, but with the help of National
46 Park Service in Nome, they shared with me their mailing
47 list, and so all three entities in every community in this
48 region are being sent notices of the meetings and what's
49 happening.

50

00028

1 MR. MENDENHALL: Yeah, Morris would testify
2 to that. He heard through your tribal group and what else?

3
4 MR. NASSUK: Our corporation.

5
6 MS. DEGNAN: Yeah.

7
8 MR. MENDENHALL: And corporation, IRA and
9 city?

10
11 CHAIR CROSS: We.....

12
13 MS. EAKON: Yeah.

14
15 CHAIR CROSS: The mailing list have
16 substantially expanded.

17
18 MR. MENDENHALL: Uh-huh.

19
20 MS. DEGNAN: Well, this is an issue that we
21 want.....

22
23 MS. EAKON: Uh-huh. Yeah.

24
25 MS. DEGNAN:to make sure that it's
26 uniform,.....

27
28 MS. EAKON: Yeah. Uh-huh.

29
30 MS. DEGNAN:and that it's consistent,
31 and when we do mailings, we know that the different groups
32 have access to that information, rather than relying for us
33 to go and hand distribute it, and call them up,.....

34
35 MS. EAKON: Right.

36
37 MS. DEGNAN:that they got mailing,
38 and that way when they converse with the council members,
39 their representatives, you'll be speaking from the same
40 information.

41
42 MS. EAKON: Yes, they are on the mailing
43 list.

44
45 MR. MENDENHALL: Madam Chair, also when
46 they were having a price dispute on chums that were down at
47 Area M, we noticed more salmon coming up because of that,
48 so it does have -- Area M and high sea intercept, when they
49 argue about it, they quit fishing, we notice some
50 increases. So it does -- outside areas outside of the --

00029

1 our region is impacted by intercept salmon fisheries.

2

3 CHAIR CROSS: We are also concerned about
4 the decline in salmon in Nome subdistrict, and we're
5 concerned that the decline, for whatever reasons there are,
6 because no study -- no adequate studies are being done,
7 that it will be expanding towards the other parts of the
8 region. And I believe we're seeing that happening, and we
9 would like to encourage and/or ask for the federal
10 government perhaps to submit monies to Nome subdistrict to
11 do a real comprehensive study as to what's happening to the
12 salmon.

13

14 MR. MENDENHALL: The recent.....

15

16 MR. BUCK: I'd like, too, to say that the
17 meeting of all the regional councils meeting in Anchorage
18 was really beneficial. We should think about a yearly
19 meeting or something like that, that we get together with
20 all the regional councils, 'cause that helped all the
21 regions. And.....

22

23 MR. MENDENHALL: Look at each other for
24 support.

25

26 One thing that as of last week at AFN, there was
27 discussions of some native corporations wanting to declare
28 their land Indian country for the sake of going under
29 federal management. That was one of the resolutions that
30 came out of AFN. Strange, ain't it? But it's only at the
31 election of the -- their corporation, if they want to. So
32 there are some movements I think in my own region that
33 probably want to go under -- declare their native corp- --
34 village corporation land as Indian country to go under
35 federal manage- -- fish management. That's -- and game.

36

37 CHAIR CROSS: This is just something.....

38

39 MR. MENDENHALL: I mean, they want to
40 change Congressional legislation, and I could go into that
41 further, but that's one of the issues that would probably
42 -- should be listed, of accepting native corporation as
43 Indian land, to change Congressional law. We don't know if
44 that would happen or not, but that is an issue by AFN.
45 Resolution taken last week.

46

47 CHAIR CROSS: Now, this is the issue that
48 doesn't need to go to the Federal Subsistence Board. We --
49 Elmer Seetot wanted me to make sure that we discussed
50 tickets and the problems we had this year. So that will be

00030

1 just a separate discussion maybe when we have our training
2 session with you.

3
4 MS. EAKON: Yeah. Okay.

5
6 CHAIR CROSS: I just didn't want to forget.

7
8 MR. MENDENHALL: You could make one issue
9 of altogether those five resolutions passed by AFN. So you
10 could get those resolutions from AFN and make them an
11 issue, that's why.....

12
13 MS. EAKON: Yeah, I have copies of those
14 resolutions with the.....

15
16 MR. MENDENHALL: The amended ones with all
17 the changes?

18
19 MS. EAKON: Yeah, with the amendments that
20 were suggested.

21
22 MR. MENDENHALL: You have them?

23
24 MS. EAKON: I can just include them with
25 your annual report, right? Okay.

26
27 MR. MENDENHALL: Right, include them with
28 our annual report.

29
30 MS. EAKON: Okay.

31
32 MR. MENDENHALL: Our region with all the
33 resolutions. Bering Straits and Kawerak.

34
35 MS. EAKON: You reg- -- our region went
36 with all of the resolutions?

37
38 MR. MENDENHALL: There was no no votes.

39
40 CHAIR CROSS: Maybe you can -- Donna -- I
41 think Donna was the one that was going to be here.....

42
43 MS. DEGNAN: And another -- Madam Chair?

44
45 CHAIR CROSS: Yes.

46
47 MS. DEGNAN: Another issue is to be
48 restated, the tribes have the ability with their local
49 knowledge to participate in the management of the
50 subsistence resources.

00031

1 MR. MENDENHALL: Well, that's in that
2 cultural.....

3
4 MS. DEGNAN: But as an issue.....

5
6 MR. MENDENHALL: Yeah. Uh-huh.

7
8 MS. DEGNAN:for our annual
9 report,.....

10
11 MR. MENDENHALL: Yeah.

12
13 MS. DEGNAN:because it's the highest
14 priority for our region is use of the resources, and we
15 want to get it as close to the user as possible.

16
17 MR. MENDENHALL: That's on page three of
18 the MAU where it says cultural principles. It kind of
19 enforced it all through with the.....

20
21 MS. DEGNAN: Uh-huh.

22
23 CHAIR CROSS: And there were some monies
24 that were allocated to -- under fisheries were some
25 (indiscernible) project. There were monies that were
26 allocated to one region, and traditional knowledge of fish
27 in Bristol Bay area, project 12. You might want to look at
28 that.

29
30 MS. EAKON: Can we hold off until fish is
31 being talked about, because Tom and Rich and Mary McBurney
32 are going to talk about those issues.

33
34 CHAIR CROSS: Okay.

35
36 MS. EAKON: Okay?

37
38 CHAIR CROSS: Okay. Anything else from the
39 Council?

40
41 MS. DEGNAN: Did.....

42
43 MR. MENDENHALL: Also.....

44
45 MS. DEGNAN:we cover all of Peter
46 Buck's concerns?

47
48 MR. BUCK: For?

49
50 CHAIR CROSS: For Area M.

00032

1 MR. BUCK: Mine was mainly the
2 extraterritorial process for the jurisdiction.

3
4 MR. MENDENHALL: Also there's a meeting on
5 March 17th with Fish Board. I think federal administration
6 and management need to attend that State Fish Board to see
7 what issues they bring out regarding fisheries in our area.
8 And I think maybe somebody, at least one or two could
9 possibly attend to help familiarize yourself. Like I've
10 been down there every year for our corporations to stay on
11 top of subsistence issues with fish at the Fish Board
12 meeting.

13
14 MS. EAKON: Is our regional.....

15
16 MR. MENDENHALL: No, this state Fish.

17
18 MS. EAKON: No, I know that, but is our
19 region coming up for discussion on March 17th?

20
21 MR. MENDENHALL: I think so, yeah. And
22 that that's the only time, it's only that section. They
23 discuss high seas intercept and they -- but it -- that
24 needs to look into, because they only go in cycles, every
25 two years.

26
27 MS. EAKON: Uh-huh. That's right.

28
29 MR. MENDENHALL: They don't happen every
30 year.

31
32 MR. BOYD: I might just add as the agenda's
33 are appropriate, I think we should look into that. And I
34 don't have a.....

35
36 MR. MENDENHALL: I know you're just.....

37
38 MR. BOYD:definite response,.....

39
40 MR. MENDENHALL:getting new into it,
41 but.....

42
43 MR. BOYD:but I'm listening to
44 what.....

45
46 MR. MENDENHALL: Yeah.

47
48 MR. BOYD:you have to say.

49
50 MR. MENDENHALL: As native groups that we

00033

1 have, we.....

2

3 MR. BOYD: Yeah.

4

5 MR. MENDENHALL:send our -- at least
6 one person there if it impacts Nome area.

7

8 MR. BOYD: Right.

9

10 MR. MENDENHALL: Loss of fish by high sea
11 intercept. And we do lobby, because they do -- million
12 dollar lawyers come up, you know, with their million dollar
13 boats that they defend. We don't have million dollar
14 boats, so -- or payments to make, so -- but we're just
15 trying to defend subsistence by going to their Fish Board
16 meetings.

17

18 MS. EAKON: What you need -- Madam Chair,
19 what you need to do is to adopt a motion to approve of the
20 issues for your annual report. When I go back to
21 Anchorage, I will type it up and send it to all of you for
22 comment, then you send it back to me, and I'll revise
23 accordingly. How's that? Okay?

24

25 MR. MENDENHALL: Uh-huh.

26

27 MS. DEGNAN: Uh-huh.

28

29 MR. MENDENHALL: Right. But in -- and
30 formally or informally, I'm requesting federal people that
31 -- go to that meeting just to see what state's planning.

32

33 MS. EAKON: Okay. I can include it as a
34 request, okay?

35

36 MS. DEGNAN: Uh-huh.

37

38 MR. MENDENHALL: Okay.

39

40 CHAIR CROSS: Which kind of addresses
41 something that I was going to be discussing later on when
42 we were discussing fisheries, is whether or not there's
43 going to be additional monies set aside for RAC travel for
44 issues pertaining to -- for sub- -- for issues that are
45 applicable to the regions where one or two of the RAC
46 members can.....

47

48 MR. MENDENHALL: Is Charlie Lean going to
49 be here?

50

00034

1 CHAIR CROSS:travel, but we can
2 discuss.....

3
4 MS. DEGNAN: Yeah, he's supposed to be
5 here.

6
7 CHAIR CROSS:that later. It doesn't
8 need.....

9
10 MR. MENDENHALL: Okay. We'll find out more
11 from him.

12
13 CHAIR CROSS:to be a federal concern
14 now.

15
16 MS. EAKON: Okay.

17
18 MS. DEGNAN: Yeah. And.....

19
20 MR. MENDENHALL: Charlie Lean's going to
21 be here tomorrow. He would have more information in.....

22
23 MS. EAKON: Yeah, he -- in fact, he's on
24 his way.

25
26 MR. MENDENHALL: Uh-huh.

27
28 CHAIR CROSS: Francis Degnan?

29
30 MS. DEGNAN: Madam Chair, I have another
31 one. I think it's important that we have the capability to
32 go send our chairman to attend local meetings upon -- if
33 they are requested to do so, and when something arises, an
34 issue, and the local group asks our council to attend, like
35 Shishmaref did, for a special issue.

36
37 MS. EAKON: Uh-huh.

38
39 MS. DEGNAN: I think that we should have a
40 budget, be able to do that, to have the coordinator and the
41 chairman, and then the local representative to meet with
42 local community concern pertaining to subsistence issues.
43 I think we should have a budget, have the ability to do
44 that in the event that there's a request. I would not
45 expect more than two requests a year from the region.

46
47 MS. EAKON: Uh-huh. And you want this as
48 an annual.....

49
50 MS. DEGNAN: Yes.

00035

1 MS. EAKON:report item?

2
3 MS. DEGNAN: Uh-huh.

4
5 MS. EAKON: Okay.

6
7 CHAIR CROSS: Anything further? For now
8 that seems to conclude our concerns.

9
10 MS. EAKON: Thank you for doing so much
11 work on this. This was one of my big worries. It needed a
12 real good job in fleshing out these issues, thank you.

13
14 CHAIR CROSS: You're welcome. Now we'll go
15 down to item C, update on federal subsistence fisheries
16 manage.....

17
18 MS. EAKON: Wait. Excuse me. You need to
19 adopt a motion to.....

20
21 CHAIR CROSS: Oh, okay. I'm sorry.

22
23 MS. EAKON:approve your issues in
24 concept.

25
26 MR. MENDENHALL: I make a motion for
27 approval of our annual report listings for year 2000.

28
29 MR. BUCK: Second.

30
31 MR. KOBUK: Second.

32
33 MR. BUCK: I'll second the motion.

34
35 CHAIR CROSS: Uh-huh.

36
37 MR. ROOKOK: Question.

38
39 CHAIR CROSS: There's a motion on the
40 floor, the question has been called. All those in favor
41 signify by saying aye?

42
43 IN UNISON: Aye.

44
45 CHAIR CROSS: All those opposed, same sign.

46
47 (No opposing votes.)

48
49 CHAIR CROSS: Motion carries unanimously.

50

00036

1 MS. EAKON: Thank you.

2

3 CHAIR CROSS: Okay. Now we will go down to
4 item number -- old business, item number C, update on
5 federal subsistence fisheries management and progress
6 report and the implementation plan, and I will.....

7

8 MR. MENDENHALL: I make a motion for a
9 brief break.

10

11 MS. DEGNAN: Ten minutes.

12

13 MR. MENDENHALL: A ten-minute break. We've
14 been going almost an hour.

15

16 MR. ROOKOK: I don't think we need to make
17 a motion to take a break.

18

19 MS. EAKON: Yeah, the Chair.....

20

21 CHAIR CROSS: Just take a break.

22

23 MS. EAKON:could just declare a
24 recess.

25

26 MR. ROOKOK: The chair could just.....

27

28 CHAIR CROSS: Right. It is getting really
29 hot in here, too, so we can open the door for -- before I
30 fall asleep or start.....

31

32 (Off record - 3:16 p.m.)

33

34 (On record - 3:32 p.m.)

35

36 CHAIR CROSS: We are now back on the
37 record. The time is 3:32 p.m. Under old business, section
38 C, update on federal subsistence fisheries management and
39 progress report and implement- -- on the implementation
40 plan by the leadership team representative. And -- who is
41 not identified.

42

43 MR. BOYD: That will be me.

44

45 CHAIR CROSS: Okay. Mr. Tom Boyd. Please
46 proceed.

47

48 MR. BOYD: Okay, Madam Chair. Just let me
49 say, does the reporter -- can you pick me up?

50

00037

1 MS. DOWNING: There's a microphone right in
2 front of you.

3
4 MR. BOYD: Do you hear me?

5
6 MS. DOWNING: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

7
8 MR. BOYD: Okay. Under tab F is a progress
9 report that is included in your packet with a number of
10 issues, and I'm going to highlight a few of these issues,
11 and if you have questions on those that I don't highlight,
12 I can address them or take questions or add to this
13 briefing.

14
15 Today I think what I want to do is talk about some
16 of the issues that have been moving forward since the late
17 January orientation session in Anchorage, and specifically
18 to talk today about the draft memorandum of under- -- or
19 agreement. We used to call it an understanding, but based
20 on comments, we're now calling it a memorandum of
21 agreement, between the federal subsistence program, and the
22 Alaska Department of Fish and Game, the state. And the
23 second topic would -- will be to address our current
24 thinking on how we will be conducting ourselves with regard
25 to in-season management during the 2000 fishing season.
26 The third topic is tribal involvement in the federal
27 subsistence program, and that's been an issue that's arisen
28 as of late, and that you were involved of at the
29 orientation session. And then, fourth, Rich Cannon and
30 Mary McBurney will be addressing the resource monitoring
31 status report for fishery projects that we've been
32 identifying, and all -- for 2000 as well as addressing how
33 we will begin the process for 2001. And some of the
34 concerns that you raised this morning I think fit nicely
35 within the context of that discussion as well. So those
36 are the four items that we're going to emphasize, and then
37 some of these other items on this report under tab F, if
38 you have questions or concerns about those, we'll also
39 respond to those.

40
41 So let me begin with the draft memorandum of
42 agreement. This was passed out -- this was something that
43 you caucused on and addressed at the January orientation
44 session, and I think most of you perceive this as something
45 that you came to very fresh during that session, and you
46 wanted additional time to review it, and particularly
47 within the context of the winter meetings. And so we're
48 back before you now with a fresh draft incorporating many
49 of the comments that we heard from the council caucuses in
50 the January orientation session, and we wanted to bring

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1 that back before you for both additional discussion and
2 your comments so that we can take that back.

3

4 Let me just kind of be real brief here so we can
5 really look at the draft together.

6

7 MR. MENDENHALL: We need to make a motion
8 on it before it can be discussed. I make a motion for
9 approval of the draft MOA for purpose of discussion.

10

11 MR. KOBUK: I'll second it.

12

13 MR. MENDENHALL: Okay. Now we could make
14 changes and comments on it.

15

16 CHAIR CROSS: So may be we can discuss it
17 first, and if we need to make any changes, we can make a
18 motion. But the motion's on the floor already, so.....

19

20 MR. MENDENHALL: Yeah, for purpose of
21 discussion of drafted MOA, dated February 11th. It's got
22 to be a positive motion, that's why.

23

24 CHAIR CROSS: Okay. Then it's open for
25 discussion.

26

27 MR. BOYD: If I may, Madam Chair, just
28 highlight some of the key changes. I won't go through them
29 at length, but I understand you received this in the mail.
30 Is that correct?

31

32 MR. MENDENHALL: Yes.

33

34 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yes.

35

36 MR. BOYD: And you've had some opportunity
37 to look at it. So the changes are those items that are
38 underlined have been struck from -- this is from the
39 version you received in January at the orientation session,
40 so that the underlined have been omit- -- will be omitted,
41 and the bold, bracketed items will be added language, so
42 you can see how this has changed. In particular, the
43 changes include council chairs will be offered an
44 opportunity to participate in the development of the
45 protocols that will follow and be tiered off of the
46 memorandum of agreement, the involvement of Alaska native
47 tribes has also been made more visible and by being
48 mentioned specifically, in addition to other native
49 organizations in appropriate places. More attention was
50 paid to specifying that cultural practices and information

00039

1 will be part of the information gathering and decision
2 making. And the document was strengthened by many of these
3 additions. So I won't belabor the additions. You have it
4 before you, and I'll defer to the council.

5

6 MR. MENDENHALL: This is basically a
7 regular agreement that has always been between the state
8 and the federal government before. This is the first time
9 where we had tribal, native people input to this MOA or
10 MOU?

11

12 MS. DEGNAN: MOA.

13

14 MR. MENDENHALL: MOA.

15

16 MR. BOYD: We're calling it an MOA now, and
17 that was one of the comments.....

18

19 MR. MENDENHALL: Yeah.

20

21 MR. BOYD:we got from the caucuses.

22

23 MR. MENDENHALL: Right. Uh-huh. So I --
24 this is standard and it's mandatory for them to work
25 together, state and federal entities.

26

27 MS. DEGNAN: Madam Chair, on page four,
28 number 13, the new one, local residents will have
29 meaningful involvement in subsistence wildlife and
30 fisheries management processes. I think that that's what
31 we were striving for, and that's, you know, the call for
32 our councils to do, so I think that's a good addition.

33

34 MR. BOYD: Oh, right here.

35

36 CHAIR CROSS: Uh-huh. Page thir -- number
37 13.

38

39 MR. BOYD: Right. Okay.

40

41 MS. DEGNAN: Uh-huh.

42

43 MR. MENDENHALL: Right. That was added
44 with everybody's consensus at that January meeting.

45

46 MR. BUCK: This is -- Leonard, you brought
47 up number 11 on page seven?

48

49 MR. KOBUK: On what? Page seven?

50

00040

1 MR. BUCK: On page seven, you were talking
2 about number 11? Or number 10.

3
4 MR. KOBUK: Oh, yeah. This MOA, the way
5 it's worded, I was kind of wondering just for my own -- it
6 says the memorandum of understanding established guidelines
7 and mutual management goals by with the signatories shall
8 coordinate, but does not create legally enforceable
9 obligations or rights. And I just kind of wanted
10 clarification of what that wording means, because -- does
11 it mean that the federals can change what's in this,
12 or.....

13
14 MR. MENDENHALL: Or if it could be -- to
15 me, my idea is both the federal and state.....

16
17 MR. KOBUK: That's on page seven.

18
19 MR. MENDENHALL:and the Subsistence
20 Board.

21
22 MR. KOBUK: Okay. I just wanted a
23 clarification, because the way I understood it on my own
24 thinking was that the state or the federal can change
25 what's in this memorandum, MOA. So is that right?

26
27 MR. BOYD: Well, you -- I think it means
28 that you can clearly make changes in any document that you
29 create that brings together parties in agreement. But they
30 -- but the parties have to be agreeable to those changes.

31
32 MR. KOBUK: Okay.

33
34 MR. BOYD: But what number.....

35
36 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Number 11.

37
38 MR. KOBUK: That was page.....

39
40 MR. BOYD: What number 11.....

41
42 MR. KOBUK:seven, number 11, because
43 right above it, it says nothing in this document shall be
44 construc -- construed as obligating the signatories to
45 expend funds or involving the United States or the State of
46 Alaska in any contract or other obligations for future
47 payment of money, except as may be negotiated in future
48 cooperative funding agreements.

49
50 MR. BOYD: Many of the items you see

00041

1 towards the end of this are standard language that we have
2 to include in almost every memorandum of understanding or
3 agreement that we prepare. These documents don't obligate
4 funds. They just say we're going to agree to work
5 together.

6
7 MR. KOBUK: Okay.

8
9 MR. BOYD: There are other documents that
10 obligate funds, like contracts, cooperative agreements, and
11 those sorts of things, but this particular documents,
12 there's no.....

13
14 MR. KOBUK: Oh, okay.

15
16 MR. BOYD:there's no exchange of
17 funds associated with it. It's standard language we have
18 to put in there, and I -- I'm sure there's a long, lengthy
19 history of why all of that is -- all that has to be here.

20
21 MR. KOBUK: Yeah, okay.

22
23 MR. BOYD: All of -- when the attorneys get
24 involved in helping us craft these things and writing our
25 guidelines, they say include these -- this kind of language
26 in here.

27
28 MR. KOBUK: All right. That's.....

29
30 MR. BOYD: Okay.

31
32 MR. KOBUK:all. I'll.....

33
34 MS. DEGNAN: Madam Chair, just following
35 that, can you operate without an MOA.....

36
37 MR. BOYD: Well,.....

38
39 MS. DEGNAN:to obligate funds?

40
41 MR. BOYD: Oh, yes. I mean, what obligates
42 funds are different instruments.....

43
44 MS. DEGNAN: Uh-huh. Contracts.

45
46 MR. BOYD:like those that I
47 mentioned,.....

48
49 MS. DEGNAN: Uh-huh. Uh-huh.

50

00042

1 MR. BOYD:contracts or cooperative
2 agreements are.....

3
4 MS. DEGNAN: Uh-huh.

5
6 MR. BOYD:other types of agreements.

7
8 MS. DEGNAN: Yeah. Now, what brought this
9 MOA into operation?

10
11 MR. MENDENHALL: It's always been there.

12
13 MS. DEGNAN: It's always been there?

14
15 MR. MENDENHALL: Yeah.

16
17 MR. BOYD: Well, we.....

18
19 MR. MENDENHALL: Between the federal land
20 and the state.....

21
22 MR. BOYD: Within the.....

23
24 MR. MENDENHALL:state management.

25
26 MR. BOYD: Since we began the federal pro-
27 -- where do I begin here? Agencies that have.....

28
29 MR. MENDENHALL: Within the state.

30
31 MR. BOYD: Federal agencies that operate
32 within a region or a state that have potentially areas
33 where they need to coordinate or cooperate, generally
34 operate under the umbrella of some form of agreement, and
35 then -- and mostly what's been adopted are memorandums of
36 understanding or agreement just like this one. We have
37 standard memorandum -- memoranda of agreement between
38 various federal agencies and the Alaska Department of Fish
39 and Game for other purposes. For management of
40 subsistence, since 1990, we have operated without one. I
41 think as we began to get into this arena of fisheries, I
42 think we recognize that there's going to be a great deal of
43 complexity with the mixed jurisdiction, and the similar
44 responsibilities that we have, and a great need to
45 coordinate those activities to do a variety of things, to
46 eliminate, you know, redundancy of effort, you know, to try
47 to work together to achieve common goals that we all share
48 in common, such as the conservation of the resource, and
49 even the subsistence priority, because the state, although
50 they don't have a rural priority, they still have a

00043

1 subsistence priority, and the need to, you know, jointly
2 coordinate all of our activities so that we can produce the
3 greatest gain for all of our management activities. And so
4 -- and to minimize I think a lot of the confusion and
5 conflict that may occur as the result of two management
6 entities trying to operate within the same sphere. Now we
7 have two managers potentially making different decisions,
8 and so the extent that we can coordinate early on in
9 developing management plans and doing many other things,
10 gathering information, coordinating the various advisory
11 bodies, the local advisory committees and the councils, to
12 that extent we can coordinate a lot of these activities
13 early on, I think the better off everyone is going to be.
14 And so that's why we are trying to engage with the state in
15 developing a document that states how we're going to
16 collaborate and cooperate.

17
18 MR. MENDENHALL: That way -- that's why we
19 made changes to our regulations on federal land to match
20 with state, or state match ours, so that the fish could --
21 or the salmon that go over is still the animal that we
22 could legally get afterwards. We can't just say it's
23 federal land or state land. We went through some --
24 adopting the change in regulation that would match, so we
25 won't have our people getting arrested for shooting on
26 federal land by state people when it's not on state. That
27 -- those kinds of things. Different management.

28
29 CHAIR CROSS: Mr. Boyd, on page seven,
30 number nine, the signatories shall meet annually, or more
31 frequently if necessary, to review coordinated programs
32 established under this MOA, and to consider modifications
33 that would further improve interagency working
34 relationships. Modifications within the scope of this
35 understanding shall be made by mutual consent of the
36 signatories, in writing, signed and updated by all parties.
37 Is there going to be correspondence with the RACs and
38 tribal governments before this is done? And if so, what is
39 it?

40
41 MR. BOYD: I think the answer's yes. How
42 it will play out, I think will be to play out in meetings
43 such as this, or by notification of proposed changes so
44 that you would have an opportunity to comment on it, and
45 provide input to any changes to the MOA.

46
47 CHAIR CROSS: Okay.

48
49 MR. BOYD: I think this particular section
50 is in here in order to -- I mean, we're beginning now I

00044

1 think as we go down this road, a year from now we will have
2 learned some things, and it's a chance for us to revisit
3 this document to see if there's a need to make any changes.
4 But I would hope we're going to set -- we're -- by
5 involving you now, I hope we're setting.....

6
7 MR. MENDENHALL: Precedents?

8
9 MR. BOYD:a precedent. More than
10 that though I think, build -- trying to build a
11 relationship here that you are the heart of the program,
12 and that you need to be involved in these deliberations.

13
14 CHAIR CROSS: Well, the reason.....

15
16 MR. BOYD: How it will play out, I'm not
17 sure. I haven't thought that far ahead, but clearly any
18 changes that would be proposed would come before the
19 councils.

20
21 CHAIR CROSS: Well, the reason why I was
22 concerned about it, one of the things that I heard very
23 loudly was that we were not signatories of this agreement.
24 Of course, the chair of the Federal Subsistence Board is
25 there, but it would have been nice to have the chair of the
26 RAC -- the chair of chairs and the chair of Board of Game
27 as part of the signatories, but not the whole entire RACs.

28
29 MR. BOYD: Uh-huh.

30
31 MR. MENDENHALL: What? I can't.....

32
33 CHAIR CROSS: Because it kind of.....

34
35 MR. MENDENHALL: hear you, what.....

36
37 CHAIR CROSS:bothers me when wording
38 like this -- it almost seems like something else will
39 happen, that another modification would be made without any
40 consultation from the users that are going to be affected
41 by any modifications. I just want that to be very -- to be
42 -- you to be very careful that if there's any changes that
43 are going to be made that there be prior to the final
44 document being implemented, that the user groups be
45 notified, comment periods be made, and some kind of
46 participation from the RACs and Board of Game councils be
47 included.

48
49 MR. BOYD: Yes.

50

00045

1 MR. MENDENHALL: I didn't.....

2

3 MR. BOYD: That is a comment that I'm
4 hearing loud and clear, and this is still a draft, and so
5 what I'm hearing you say is to.....

6

7 CHAIR CROSS: It would be nice to consider
8 having the chair of chairs or the -- and the chair of the
9 Board of Game.....

10

11 MR. BOYD: Yes.

12

13 CHAIR CROSS:included in it.

14

15 MR. BOYD: Okay.

16

17 MR. MENDENHALL: I accept the document as
18 it is, as it could be revised after -- through experience,
19 but I think it's under the spirit of ANILCA, Title VIII,
20 and we have to put full trust in our subsistence board, and
21 that they already included a lot of local input,
22 representation and involvement in here. Changes.

23

24 CHAIR CROSS: Well, I was just stating my
25 own fears.

26

27 MR. MENDENHALL: Yeah. No, I'm just saying
28 that I -- I'm making my statement that I accept the
29 document as it.

30

31 MR. BUCK: Is that a motion?

32

33 MS. DEGNAN: No, he.....

34

35 MR. MENDENHALL: No, I -- we already did
36 that. I call for question on the motion.

37

38 MR. BUCK: Okay. I call the question.

39

40 CHAIR CROSS: There's a motion on the
41 floor, and will you restate your motion again?

42

43 MR. MENDENHALL: We did that, yeah.

44

45 MR. BUCK: Yeah.

46

47 MR. MENDENHALL: To adopt this.....

48

49 CHAIR CROSS: Are you adopting it, or do
50 you want to open the motion for discussion?

00046

1 MR. BUCK: It's a motion made, seconded,
2 and the question is called.

3
4 CHAIR CROSS: Okay. All those in favor of
5 accepting the document.....

6
7 MR. MENDENHALL: We've got two motions?

8
9 MS. DEGNAN: No, it's the same one.

10
11 MR. MENDENHALL: That's the same motion?

12
13 MS. DEGNAN: Uh-huh. Let's just call for
14 the question.

15
16 MR. MENDENHALL: Okay.

17
18 CHAIR CROSS: That's why I was asking to
19 restate your motion.

20
21 MR. MENDENHALL: Oh, yeah, I thought we did
22 that -- I mean at the beginning, and it's a matter of
23 calling it for question.

24
25 CHAIR CROSS: Just restate your motion,
26 please?

27
28 MR. MENDENHALL: As -- that we adopt the --
29 I mean, we approve the MOA as presented to us, dated
30 February 11th, 2000, and it was seconded by.....

31
32 CHAIR CROSS: And that concerns be
33 presented.

34
35 MR. BUCK: And I call the question.

36
37 CHAIR CROSS: All those in favor of the
38 motion, please signify by stating aye?

39
40 IN UNISON: Aye.

41
42 CHAIR CROSS: All those opposed, signify by
43 saying the same sign?

44
45 (No opposing votes.)

46
47 CHAIR CROSS: The motion carries. As the
48 motion carries, I still would like to, please, Mr. Boyd,
49 that we would like out concerns to be heard.

50

00047

1 MR. BOYD: Yes.

2
3 CHAIR CROSS: Thank you.

4
5 MR. BOYD: I captured those thoughts
6 specifically regarding item nine on page seven to ensure
7 prior to implementation of any changes that consultation
8 and participation with the regional advisory councils
9 occur. I was a little unclear with regard to the
10 involvement of the chair of chairs and chair of Board of
11 Game, but.....

12
13 CHAIR CROSS: Well, I was just saying that
14 it would have been nice.

15
16 MR. BOYD: Okay. To include that language?

17
18 CHAIR CROSS: Yeah, I wasn't.....

19
20 MR. MENDENHALL: For which one?

21
22 CHAIR CROSS:making a suggestion that
23 it happen.

24
25 MR. BOYD: Okay.

26
27 CHAIR CROSS: I was just saying it would
28 have been nice if the chair of chairs and the chair of the
29 Board of Game councils would have been included as
30 signatories. I wasn't saying it should happen, I was.....

31
32 MR. MENDENHALL: Where was this.....

33
34 CHAIR CROSS:just saying it
35 would.....

36
37 MR. MENDENHALL:Madam Chair?

38
39 CHAIR CROSS: No, was saying that as
40 signatories, it would have been nice to have the chair of
41 chairs and the chair of the Board of Game be included as
42 signatories.

43
44 MR. MENDENHALL: Well, they have.....

45
46 CHAIR CROSS: It was just that.....

47
48 MR. MENDENHALL:that there, don't
49 they?

50

00048

1 MS. DEGNAN: No.

2

3 CHAIR CROSS: They have the Federal
4 Subsistence Board, you know.

5

6 MR. MENDENHALL: They've got the Federal
7 Subsistence -- which is our -- which is made up of the
8 chairs, of all chairs, you know.

9

10 CHAIR CROSS: No.

11

12 MR. BOYD: No.

13

14 CHAIR CROSS: Unh-unh. (Negative) It's
15 totally, you know,.....

16

17 MR. MENDENHALL: The Board.....

18

19 CHAIR CROSS: Unh-unh. (Negative)

20 We're.....

21

22 MR. MENDENHALL:chair.

23

24 CHAIR CROSS: Nope.

25

26 MR. MENDENHALL: Because they have to
27 follow that law. You explained it pretty much what --
28 pretty well at that January meeting about that.

29

30 MR. BOYD: With -- I'm not sure what you're
31 referring to.

32

33 MR. MENDENHALL: Federal Subsistence Board
34 chair fulfilled that obligation to our ranks on the
35 regional advisory committee. We're advisory committee.

36

37 MR. BOYD: To the Board, that's correct.

38

39 MR. MENDENHALL: Right.

40

41 MS. DEGNAN: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

42

43 CHAIR CROSS: It was just a comment.

44

45 MR. BOYD: Okay.

46

47 MS. DEGNAN: And I think my concerns were
48 addressed on page four, number 13, that the local residents
49 will have meaningful.....

50

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1 MR. MENDENHALL: Uh-huh.

2
3 MS. DEGNAN:involvement in this, as
4 part of that.

5
6 MR. MENDENHALL: Because that covers that
7 concern.

8
9 MS. DEGNAN: Uh-huh. (Affirmative).

10
11 CHAIR CROSS: Okay. So let's continue onto
12 the.....

13
14 MR. MENDENHALL: Anyway, the motion passed.

15
16 CHAIR CROSS:wherever you were
17 going.....

18
19 MR. BOYD: Okay.

20
21 CHAIR CROSS:leading to.

22
23 MR. BOYD: Let me talk a bit about in-
24 season management. I was hoping I'd get to cover this in
25 the morning when my head was a little better shape, but in
26 the afternoon I start slowing down.

27
28 This has been a lingering concern obviously, a big
29 concern of the federal -- as we have begun to develop the
30 federal program, and we've started our planning, and that
31 is how we were going to work with, integrate our program in
32 terms of making regulatory decisions, particularly in-
33 season decisions where we have -- areas where we have mixed
34 jurisdictions, and where the state is also actively
35 involved in making those same decisions for regulat --
36 regulating the harvest of fisheries. And so it's been
37 something that's been on our mind, and we've begun to
38 evaluate this issue, and so I'm providing you a briefing
39 today as a way of providing information, as well as
40 soliciting your input or comment on how we might proceed on
41 this.

42
43 For the 2000 fishing season, we're looking at
44 establishing an interim management decision-making process
45 that will involve the councils, but it won't be really in
46 full swing until we get into 2001. And the reason for this
47 is that we just simply aren't going to be ready in 2000 to
48 implement a full process for in-season decision making.
49 Number one, we won't have a management, an information
50 management process or infrastructure in place. We're just

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1 beginning to get that going, and Rich will talk more about
2 that in a few minutes. And so we won't have this process
3 in place to effectively support the analysis of -- for in-
4 season decision making.

5
6 The second reason is that the protocols for in-
7 season management that will guide how the federal and state
8 programs will cooperate and coordinate haven't been worked
9 out yet. We started with the MOA, and then we're going to
10 start developing proto -- a protocol on various activities,
11 and one of those is in-season management.

12
13 And, thirdly, we have been delayed in hiring key
14 staff for positions that will be directly involved with in-
15 season management. As some of you may be aware, the
16 federal process for hiring takes several months, and so we
17 simply won't have the people in place this summer to be on
18 the ground actively making these decisions, so we have to
19 think about how we're going to deal with 2000 and look out
20 to 2001 before we have a full process in place.

21
22 In evaluating in-season management, we've looked at
23 several considerations. One of those is the potential for
24 -- in other words, the potential for intervention by
25 emergency order management of salmon fisheries and how that
26 varies across the state. Secondly, the -- how we might
27 delegate federal board authority where needed. Thirdly,
28 we've looked at strategies to reduce federal intervention
29 with ADF&G emergency orders, and I'll talk more about this
30 in a minute. And I've already mentioned some of the
31 considerations for the 2000 season.

32
33 Let me go back to the potential for intervention,
34 and how that varies across the state. And generally we've
35 looked at the various regions of the state and determined
36 that the highest probability for intervention and in-season
37 management by the federal decision-makers is probably going
38 to be in the Yukon River area. That's an area where we
39 have mixed federal/ state jurisdiction interspersed over
40 the 1200 mile length of that river. And we also have
41 occurring within federal jurisdiction commercial fisheries
42 as well as subsistence fisheries, and so the intensity
43 there is going to be the greatest for the potential for
44 federal intervention.

45
46 Sort of a medium risk, we've seen that the
47 Kuskokwim River and in some of the Gulf of Alaska rivers,
48 like the Copper River. And some of the streams in
49 Southeast pose a minimum -- sort of a medium risk.

50

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1 And in low risk, we've determined that the Arctic,
2 Kotzebue, Norton Sound, Bristol Bay, Alaska Peninsula, and
3 Cook Inlet regions pose a low risk.

4
5 Now, these determinations are based on a number of
6 considerations, such as the recent abundance of salmon, the
7 amount of commercial fishing occurring within the federal
8 jurisdiction, and the number of villages in the region, and
9 the number of emergency orders that have been issued in the
10 past by the state. So we've kind of taken a look at that
11 in ranking these areas. So that's one consideration that
12 we've looked at as we've begun to look forward to this
13 process.

14
15 The second item is delegation of the Federal
16 Subsistence Board authority. And let me just that our
17 regulations when we crafted them, we inserted a provision
18 that would allow the federal board to delegate decision-
19 making authority down to field officials, so that is
20 already in place. We're currently considering two
21 approaches to doing this. First, we would delegate
22 authority to the local land manager, such as a refuge
23 manager, a park superintendent, or in the case of the
24 Forest Service, the district ranger. And that would be
25 most applicable when an emergency order affects a single
26 conservation unit.

27
28 A second approach that we could apply would be for
29 areas that have multiple jurisdiction, like I mentioned
30 before, the Yukon River. And there we're looking at
31 assigning managers regardless of jurisdiction to cover the
32 whole drainage, sort of mirroring what the state currently
33 does in the Yukon River. Currently they have two managers
34 that operate and make decisions within the Yukon River, one
35 for the summer chum, and the other -- and chinook, and then
36 the other would focus on the fall chum and the coho runs in
37 that river. So those are the considerations that we're
38 currently thinking about as far as delegating down these
39 kinds of decisions.

40
41 Obviously we would need to develop some guidelines
42 to the delegated officials to assure that they understand
43 the limits of their responsibilities, and how they would
44 operate within the context of working with the state and
45 gathering information, consulting with the users and the
46 advisory committees, and the timing of decisions and many
47 other factors. So that's the delegation issue.

48
49 The third item I mentioned was strategies to reduce
50 federal intervention with ADF&G emergency orders.

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1 Obviously, I mentioned this earlier, we have a situation in
2 some areas of the state, and I'm not sure it applies
3 directly to your region, where there's a high risk of
4 conflict when you have two managers operating within the
5 same realm.

6
7 And so in order to get out in front of that and
8 minimize the potential for conflicting regulatory decisions
9 being made, some ideas we're thinking about, and some of
10 these are already coming into fulfillment I might add, are
11 the need to sort of proactively manage to reduce the direct
12 involvement by federal managers are to minimize the
13 conflicts of two different decisions being made.

14
15 Let me kind of list some of these strategies that
16 we're considering. One would be participation in the pre
17 and post-season planning and evaluation so that subsistence
18 concerns can be communicated and considered. My
19 understanding -- and Rich here has participate in this
20 throughout his career with the state and could further
21 elaborate, but my understanding is that there is in several
22 of the regions preseason management meetings that includes
23 the local user groups, and we want to be able to work with
24 the state in these meetings to get the subsistence
25 considerations on the table and fully aired, so as we go
26 into the season, those are accommodated in the management
27 regime. We've already been invited by one of the regional
28 supervisors, Tom Krone, in this region.....

29
30 MR. CANNON: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

31
32 MR. BOYD:to participate in those
33 meetings.

34
35 MR. CANNON: And RACs, too.

36
37 MR. BOYD: Anyone else?

38
39 MR. CANNON: Some of the RACs.

40
41 MR. BOYD: And I think, Grace, you've been
42 notified with regard to that. I'm not -- is that correct?

43
44 MR. CANNON: We've got Helga.....

45
46 MS. EAKON: I sent you a mes.....

47
48 MR. BOYD: Okay.

49
50 MS. EAKON: I forwarded a message from

00053

1 Charlie Lean about the.....

2

3 CHAIR CROSS: Is -- was that e-mail?

4

5 MS. EAKON: Yeah, e-mail.

6

7 CHAIR CROSS: I could never open those.

8

9 MR. BOYD: Okay. Well, anyway, that's in
10 the making now. We just recently received that invitation,
11 and so that's coming together. Even in the absence of a
12 protocol, we're starting to implement some of these
13 strategies.

14

15 The second strategy is that we get direct
16 participation in the emergency order decision-making
17 process prior to a final decision and the announcement of
18 the emergency order. It's been the practice of the Alaska
19 Department of Fish and Game to do a teleconference
20 regarding gathering input and then prior to making any
21 decisions, and so we want to be involved in that process,
22 both at the federal staff level, and at the council level.

23

24 The third strategy is participation in long-term
25 fisheries, the management plans I -- we should call them,
26 that establish escapement goals and trigger in-season
27 decisions so subsistence fishery needs on federal lands are
28 included in plan development. That's way up in front of
29 developing any -- before we even get to emergency orders.

30

31 A fourth strategy would be, and this is on-going,
32 obtaining knowledge of current concerns of subsistence
33 users so that we can be ready to react to those issues. Do
34 I need to stop?

35

36 CHAIR CROSS: Do you need to stop?

37

38 MS DOWNING: No. No, it's just telling me it
39 changed sides.

40

41 MR. BOYD: Okay. And the fifth strategy is
42 to restrict special action requests to only addressing
43 conservation or subsistence harvest issues. Currently we
44 operate on in-season through special actions, that's -- to
45 change regulations or to issue closures or other types of
46 changes in regulations. And we want to really only focus
47 on those harvest and conservation issues that are paramount
48 and defer other types of regulatory issues to the annual
49 regulations process.

50

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1 MS. DEGNAN: Yeah. Now, may I ask you what
2 do you mean by when you say you initiate federal
3 intervention? So you're assuming that on the Yukon River,
4 that is the state management regime is in operation, so
5 they'll continue on until the point where you have your
6 federal intervention? What happens when that happens?

7
8 MR. BOYD: Well, we're just getting into
9 it, so we're learning ourselves, Fran, but I think you're
10 on the verge of a pretty apt description. The state will
11 continue to manage in the river in-season. They have an
12 obligation to manage the commercial fisheries. Our focus
13 is the subsistence fisheries. We are concerned about what
14 the state is doing with regard to opening and closing those
15 commercial fisheries.

16
17 MS. DEGNAN: Yeah. Because it seems like
18 the only time the interest goes is when there is a
19 commercial interest in those species, so, you know, -- so
20 the thing has to be I think pretty clear, because the local
21 subsistence user doesn't pay any attention to what the
22 management regime is.

23
24 MR. BOYD: Right.

25
26 MS. DEGNAN: Their management regime is
27 their stomach and what food they can put on the table.

28
29 MR. MENDENHALL: And the mouth.

30
31 MS. DEGNAN: It -- yeah. And so what I
32 keep hearing and people telling me is that there's too many
33 rules and too many regulations, too few people out there
34 gathering information to make a determination as to whether
35 or not we can hunt or harvest those species, that my -- I'm
36 not going to let my family starve. I can -- I'll, you
37 know, wind up probably in prison, because there's so many
38 regulations and all different kinds of interpretations, and
39 so I think that's why it's really important that we use
40 local knowledge as a part of the factor in the management
41 regime, because it's the user that understands when the
42 resource is diminishing or when it's flourishing, and when
43 the right time is to do the harvest. And then you have the
44 weather to kick in, so it's your -- and, you know, you
45 can't make those determinations simply by relying on one
46 counting tower or how many fish pass, because a lot of
47 times the water is muddy, you can't see anything, and
48 that's when the fish are moving and when they're available.
49 So it's the local people that go out and put their nets in,
50 nets in or do their activities to get the food to put on

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1 their table, and so, you know, how do we know what's the
2 best method for management? And the thing is the bottom
3 line is when the resource is at a diminished stage, there
4 shouldn't be any commercial application of the resource.
5 They -- it should be.....

6
7 MR. MENDENHALL: It -- yeah.

8
9 MS. DEGNAN:to meet the needs, the
10 nutritional needs of the local people. And that's.....

11
12 MR. MENDENHALL: Yeah, it.....

13
14 MS. DEGNAN:what concerns me from
15 looking.....

16
17 MR. MENDENHALL: Yeah.

18
19 MS. DEGNAN:from the user level, the
20 person that's using the resource.

21
22 MR. MENDENHALL: It's -- based on the
23 January meeting and AFN's meeting, the comment tends to
24 come out that the State of Alaska puts commercial fishery
25 over subsistence users, and we were hoping that through the
26 federal intervention that it would be in defense of
27 subsistence users.

28
29 MR. BOYD: Sure.

30
31 MR. MENDENHALL: And I like your three-
32 prong plan that you have here, planning the strategies,
33 emergency order decisions, and long-term management plan.
34 Those things need to be caught up. But again like you
35 said, you need to hire biologists, and I think there's some
36 good biologists within the state, but we don't want you to
37 make the same mistakes the state had made in where the
38 chums had crashed, like the Nome rivers. We don't want it
39 to crash in the Yukon or any place else. So I think I like
40 the attitude of subsistence users over commercial use of
41 fish.

42
43 MR. BOYD: Yeah. And I think everything
44 you've said, Fran, is something that we're taking into
45 consideration as we develop these strategies, to try to get
46 out in front and ensure that the priority is for
47 subsistence use and conservation. Obviously these other
48 uses are going to go on unless they have to be restricted
49 to protect for conservation and subsistence uses, and so we
50 want to be able to manage all of it, or at least have a fix

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1 on what's going on with regard to everything that's going
2 on out there in the fisheries, the commercial uses, the
3 other uses, the subsistence uses, and the -- and meeting
4 the escapement goals to protect the.....

5
6 MS. DEGNAN: Yeah, because I know.....

7
8 MR. BOYD:fishery as a whole.

9
10 MS. DEGNAN:when I've listened to the
11 radio for all the openings and closures, and I can never
12 understand why, you know, they have a subsistence season
13 open and close when the fish is going up. That I have a
14 difficult time understanding. I can understand the
15 commercial opening.....

16
17 MR. BOYD: Uh-huh.

18
19 MS. DEGNAN:and commercial closure,
20 but you should never have.....

21
22 MR. BOYD: A subsistence closure.

23
24 MS. DEGNAN:subsistence open or close
25 when you've got a commercial activity going on. That's the
26 part that I think is so strange.

27
28 CHAIR CROSS: Speaking kind of in the lines
29 that you were talking about, you were talking your fifth
30 goal is to restrict special action requests? In an event
31 of an emergency where there's not enough fish that was --
32 that's coming in, what mechanism would be used then to do a
33 special action? Are you going to be relying on the state
34 to do emergency closure or.....

35
36 MR. BOYD: Well, as I read this, I realized
37 it was probably a poor way to word it, and I think a better
38 way of saying it would be to use special action requests in
39 order to insure addressing conservation and subsistence
40 harvest issues, and to use the annual regulatory process
41 for other types of regulations changes. So I -- in a way,
42 I think that the way this is worded, it would prompt a
43 question like you just asked. But I think that special
44 action requests, the in-season decision if you will is for
45 the very thing you just said. Is -- does that -- did I
46 answer your question, Grace? I'm not sure.

47
48 CHAIR CROSS: Yeah. It sounded like you
49 were going to be.....

50

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1 MR. BOYD: Yeah, I think the.....

2
3 CHAIR CROSS:not utilizing.....

4
5 MR. BOYD:word restrict is
6 inappropriate here.

7
8 CHAIR CROSS: It sounded like you were --
9 and then you were -- yet you were talking about subsistence
10 going to be a priority, but in the event that there's
11 decline of fish, then how are you going to do -- you --
12 what kind of mechanism were you going to use if you were
13 going to be restricting strict -- special action requests.
14 But you've clarified it.

15
16 MR. BOYD: Okay.

17
18 CHAIR CROSS: I guess a wrong word to use
19 is the.....

20
21 MR. BOYD: It is the wrong word to use.

22
23 CHAIR CROSS:appropriate term.
24 Peter Buck?

25
26 MR. BUCK: Yes, on the third paragraph of
27 -- on the progress report you said that the fiscal year
28 2000 fisheries marketing project, you've got a list of 39
29 projects totalling \$4 million, and in our minutes Mr. Lean
30 said that there was five million. What happened to that
31 other million? Is that the same money, or that a
32 different.....

33
34 MR. BOYD: I've got it. We're going to
35 come to that in a minute. Rich is going to brief in more
36 depth on that, so why don't I defer your question to Rich
37 when he has his briefing?

38
39 Let me kind of go on with this, if I may, Madam
40 Chair, with regard to the in-season management. I know
41 this is probably a little more in-depth than I might need
42 to, to get here, but let me just kind of conclude that or
43 the 2000 season, some of the things that I've said were not
44 going to be able to be in full force.

45
46 So some of the things that we are considering right
47 now are deferring any type of in-season decision making
48 until the 2001 season. Some of the reasons I stated
49 earlier, lack of staff, lack of having an information
50 process in place for ensuring it.

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1 And the focus for 2000 would then be on
2 implementing some of these preventative measures that I
3 talked about. Getting out in front on the planning
4 process, going to these preseason meetings, and
5 participating in -- with the state this year in the
6 emergency order process as they engage with the users, and
7 making sure that our councils are involved in that process.
8 So those are the kinds of things that we would do this
9 year. And then next year, once we have staff on board, and
10 our information process in place, would be much more
11 involved, and also having a protocol established with the
12 state on how we're going to interact on in-season
13 decisions. I don't think it will affect your region
14 greatly by doing that this year. It will probably have a
15 greater effect on the Yukon River, on maybe some parts of
16 the -- your region. But it will probably have a greater
17 effect there. And again I'm not sure if it's a major -- if
18 it's going to be a major effect. It again depends on some
19 of the things that are going on in season. But I think
20 what we want to try to do this year is to have a greater
21 influence on those decisions, and then next year have our
22 infrastructure and our staff in place to get that -- to be
23 more actively involved in those decisions.

24
25 Clearly there's a role for the councils to play,
26 and partic -- I'll just reemphasize these: participation
27 in the preseason and the in-season processes as well as
28 post season when evaluations of what's happened during the
29 season take place. And then participations and
30 consultations prior to the announcement of decisions on an
31 emergency order or special action requests. And, thirdly,
32 participation in the development of a protocol for in-
33 season management when we engage with the state. We
34 clearly want to have regional advisory council involvement
35 in that process as well.

36
37 So that concludes my briefing on the in-season
38 management for the 2000 fishing season.

39
40 I might add that in the handout that Helga provided
41 you, I should have said this earlier, that looks like this,
42 there's some pages that got turned around, so it may be
43 confusing to look at that. Many of the briefing papers
44 that I'm talking from are in here. If you go to page three
45 in here, it's not listed as page three, but the third page
46 in, including the top page, that's actually the third page
47 which begins actually on the fifth page. So that whole
48 thing got turned around. And I'm fixing to talk about
49 tribal involvement in a minute, and then if -- I just got
50 through talking about in-season management, so if you go to

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1 the seventh page in, that should be followed by the sixth
2 page, so those two pages are turned around, the sixth and
3 seventh page. She just had these copied locally, and they
4 turned the pages around for these, so I just wanted to flag
5 that for you.

6
7 MR. MENDENHALL: So we have until what,
8 March what, to comment on your plan?

9
10 MR. BOYD: I wanted to expose it to you
11 today to see if there were any comments. Obviously we want
12 to involve the regional councils in the protocol for
13 developing in-season, so there will be more discussions as
14 we move forward with this. I think this is largely
15 informational now, but if you have comments I can take
16 them. It's to expose our thinking about how we're going to
17 proceed with regard to in-season in 2000.

18
19 MS. DEGNAN: But keeping in mind the
20 subsistence user, that his ability to feed himself and his
21 family is the critical thing, and having closed seasons for
22 subsistence fishing I think is kind of not in the best
23 interest of the subsistence user. That's just my opinion,
24 because knowing what all these -- there's no way you're
25 going to each subsistence user to understand what's a
26 federal rule, and what's a state rule, no matter how many
27 messages you throw at him, except if you throw him in jail.
28 And then he won't want to do it.

29
30 MR. BOYD: Rich, can you elaborate any on
31 that?

32
33 MR. CANNON: Yeah, I think I can.

34
35 MR. BOYD: It's an -- obviously I'm just
36 getting into it, but Rich has had a lot of experience here.

37
38 MR. CANNON: Yeah. Frances, the reason
39 that often subsistence fisheries are closed for a short
40 period of time while commercial fisheries are allowed is
41 because of enforcement reasons. In some areas here have
42 been problems with just a handful of subsistence fishermen
43 who will go out and catch fish who don't have a permit, a
44 commercial permit, and then they'll go into the commercial
45 fishery, and that hurts all the fishermen. This has
46 happened on the Yukon River. And in fact our local
47 advisory committee, the local fishermen were the first, you
48 know, to raise that concern, and they wanted that stopped,
49 because it hurts everybody. It hurts the reputation of
50 subsistence in their area. And so most -- in most cases,

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1 that's the reason that happens is to -- not to hurt the
2 subsistence user, but it's to separate the two fisheries.

3
4 MS. DEGNAN: But I think that the concept
5 is foreign in terms of the indigenous people in that they
6 know when they don't have any food for their family that
7 they're going to go out and get it. They are going to take
8 it, because there should be some provision for that in the
9 event of, you know, there's no nutritional means to keep
10 the family together other than harvesting, and not make it,
11 you know, a crime when somebody calls in, report them on
12 the toll-free line, and there's no defense, because you're
13 just a criminal, and you'll have -- nobody's going to fight
14 that. But those are real issues to the real people.

15
16 CHAIR CROSS: Uh-huh.

17
18 MS. DEGNAN: And they said that you can
19 have all the regulations in the world, but when my family
20 is hungry, I am going to go and take that fish, or take
21 that game, because, you know, subsistence means no closed,
22 nothing's ever closed. You harvest in season, and I think
23 you -- that needs to be recognized by both the federal and
24 the state regulatory groups.

25
26 MR. CANNON: I hear what you're saying, and
27 I.....

28
29 MS. DEGNAN: And there's got to be a
30 cushion for, you know, life, they do that for anything else
31 no matter where you are out in the country, if you're in an
32 emergency situation, if you take a moose, or take a caribou
33 or anything, you're not going to be thrown in jail, and the
34 same should apply to the fish.

35
36 MR. CANNON: If the state and the federal
37 managers are doing their job, and we have a decline in our
38 fish resources to the point where people are going hungry,
39 I would pray, I would hope that we would be on top of that,
40 and there would be no commercial fisheries in that
41 situation.

42
43 MR. MENDENHALL: Madam Chair?

44
45 CHAIR CROSS: Okay.

46
47 MR. MENDENHALL: I just got through reading
48 it, and I kind of like the way that your approach is to
49 Arctic Slope and Kotzebue region of contacting key people
50 in -- fishing in those rivers, and dealing with high risk,

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1 medium, and low. And I sort of wish that Nome would have
2 had that kind of agenda when it was under the state before
3 our chums crashed. And I concur with your 2000 project
4 plan for now, because of your short notice, short staff,
5 and everything that you had to face and being organized for
6 -- you know, within three months, that's too short. And --
7 but I believe we need to review what happens 2000 in the --
8 before 2001 comes about. I kind of -- I agree with their
9 management plan. And I think this would be good for our
10 Seward Pen RAC to support their plan, in light of the fact
11 that they did work with the other RAC committee members and
12 their -- in those appropriate regions, in Kotzebue and the
13 Arctic Slope.

14
15 CHAIR CROSS: I think I would -- my concern
16 is that it seems that we're being placed in the same
17 situation again, and that is this area, this whole region
18 is probably above any other place in the state has the
19 worse situation in salmon decline. In Nome subdistrict, we
20 were forced into a Tier II system, and then yet we're still
21 low priority for the region. I think I can -- I think
22 what's going to happen, and because there's more -- as --
23 the fishing decline is going to spread. Is the rest of the
24 region going to be in the same situation as Nome
25 subdistrict before somebody finally sets priorities to this
26 region to find out what is happening to our salmon? And
27 placing us in low priority when we have the highest fish
28 decline in one part of our region, I don't understand that.
29 I just don't. The state did the same thing to us, and look
30 where Nome subdistrict is.

31
32 MR. BOYD: Let.....

33
34 MR. MENDENHALL: But, see, under their --
35 under the federal plan, we're not under their plan right
36 now.

37
38 CHAIR CROSS: I know, but I'm just saying
39 what I'm seeing is we're getting less and less chums not
40 only in Nome subdistrict, but it's spreading.

41
42 MR. MENDENHALL: Uh-huh. That's true.

43
44 CHAIR CROSS: At what point in time are
45 they going to say, Unalakleet Scenic River, are we going to
46 wait until there's like almost no chums before somebody
47 finally reacts to the area and say, okay, we've got to do
48 something about it, and have to end up having to try to
49 replenish it by then? Or at some point in time is
50 something going to happen?

00062

1 MR. MENDENHALL: But I think that with our
2 resolutions from AFN is addressing that. Those that are
3 not under federal management, like Nome is not, we.....

4
5 CHAIR CROSS: Nome may not be under.....
6

7 MR. MENDENHALL:would -- we would be
8 addressing that through AFN, because we're asking from that
9 end of perspective to be under federal management if we as
10 the corporations declare our lands Indian country.

11
12 CHAIR CROSS: Well, that may or may not
13 happen. My concern right now is our situation right now.

14
15 MR. MENDENHALL: I.....
16

17 CHAIR CROSS: The situation is once again
18 we're placed being low priority,.....
19

20 MR. BOYD: Let me address that,
21 because.....
22

23 CHAIR CROSS:and that really concerns
24 me. And I think that in year 2001, and I -- you know, I
25 think this is a good plan to begin with, but I think at
26 least in 2001 there should be something that addresses this
27 region. We may not bring in millions of bucks of
28 commercial fish monies to the state or to the federal
29 government, but we still, and most -- because the majority
30 of us are subsistence fishermen, that doesn't mean that we
31 should take the second door.

32
33 MR. BOYD: Let me try to explain and
34 clarify this, and let me first say that I -- this is I
35 think maybe another one of those situations where the
36 choice of words is misleading, and this is certainly not an
37 indication of low priority for the issues in this region.
38 This is an evaluation for us in terms of, if you will, the
39 federal program in terms of addressing this issue of how to
40 prepare for in-season management. And so we've assessed
41 the various regions in the state and the regions where we
42 have a low risk means basically a low probability that
43 there will be a need.....
44

45 CHAIR CROSS: Or a lack of fish.
46

47 MR. BOYD: No, a low probability of whether
48 there will be a need for federal involvement directly in
49 in-season management. It does not mean that the issues in
50 this region are low -- are a low priority, which is

00063

1 something totally different, Grace. I don't know if that
2 clarifies it, but I hear your concerns, and I heard them
3 today when we had lunch, and I understand the urgency of
4 what you're saying. This is not an indication of low
5 priority though, and I want to make that very clear. This
6 is only to help us plan for where we would place our
7 resources or where we would direct our efforts with regard
8 to intervention and in-season management. I don't know if
9 you wanted to add to that.

10
11 MR. CANNON: No, that -- I think that was
12 -- I know that was a misunderstanding, and -- but I also
13 wanted to echo, you know, what Grace is saying, is that
14 Norton Sound, northern Norton Sound has been the
15 bellwether, has been the indicator of declines in chum
16 salmon. It isn't whether that may happen, it is happening,
17 so you're very right about that.

18
19 MR. BUCK: I agree with Grace that the loss
20 of salmon is spreading, because it happened in Nome River
21 first, and White Mountain was okay. But then about a year
22 later White Mountain started declining, so -- and they're
23 declining pretty fast. We still have more fish than Nome,
24 but it's spreading from Nome to White Mountain. I don't
25 know where else it's going to go, so.....

26
27 MS. DEGNAN: I have a question for you.

28
29 MR. MENDENHALL: Just because last summer
30 they had an argument over fish prices so they let a lot of
31 by-catch go by. I think that had a lot of impact on the
32 commercial level.

33
34 MS. DEGNAN: I just have a question for
35 Peter. Even if your fish stocks are low, do you still
36 catch fish for human consumption?

37
38 MR. BUCK: Yes, for subsistence, but they
39 -- closures and things for Nome are different for Golo --
40 than for Golovin and White Mountain. And so we still have
41 more fish than Nome, but ours is declining fast, too.

42
43 MR. MENDENHALL: You have a lot of people
44 from Nome going over there, that's why.

45
46 MR. BUCK: Yeah, we have Nome.

47
48 MR. MENDENHALL: We should seriously.....

49
50 MR. BUCK: People that lived in White

00064

1 Mountain before moved to Nome, but they still go over to
2 White Mountain and fish, so.....

3
4 MS. DEGNAN: And bring all their friends.

5
6 MR. BUCK: Yeah. And relatives.

7
8 MR. KOBUK: Of course, St. Michael and
9 Stebbins since we're not allowed to do any commercial
10 fishing, but I noticed that some parts where we fish are in
11 federal wildlife, like Pikmiktalik and some do go fish in
12 Romonof Point. So far we haven't had any problems with
13 subsistence fishing. Earlier we were trying to open up a
14 commercial fishing, but as the people begin to hear a lot
15 of problems that different regions are running into, the
16 people at home just decided it just wasn't worth getting
17 into commercial fishing. We'd rather keep our subsistence
18 way of life, so -- we haven't had any problems with fish.
19 For me, I have that lives down in the south mouth of the
20 Yukon. I go down there to put away fish, because like --
21 the fish there is a lot more fat, and that's what I do.
22 So.....

23
24 It's sad to see a lot of these, like Nome and White
25 Mountain and Unalakleet, all those that fish for commercial
26 successfully, that commercial seems to be more important
27 than the subsistence way of life, because that's one of the
28 reasons why Stebbins and St. Michael opted out not to get
29 into commercial fishing, because we'd rather keep the way
30 we live.

31
32 CHAIR CROSS: Before we go on, Tim Towarak,
33 the City Manager, and the Police Department,.....

34
35 MS. EAKON: The police.....

36
37 CHAIR CROSS:has canceled bingo, so
38 we can continue after dinner tonight, so maybe we could
39 suggest an evening session and see how the rest of the
40 council feels about it. I think we're already behind, and
41 we might want to do at least a couple hours.

42
43 MS. EAKON: Yes, even if we meet for two
44 hours after dinner, that will keep you ahead, and then you
45 can adjourn tomorrow.

46
47 CHAIR CROSS: So how much time do we want
48 for dinner?

49
50 MS. EAKON: It's up to you how much time

00065

1 you want.

2

3 MR. MENDENHALL: A half hour.

4

5 CHAIR CROSS: You're just going to eat dry
6 fish?

7

8 MS. DEWHURST: There is catering, too. We
9 did that once. Well, you were here. We did that once for
10 lunch. I think we catered into this room, and that was
11 quicker. It's just a suggestion.

12

13 CHAIR CROSS: Do we want to do that and
14 take a half an hour break and just have the food catered
15 in?

16

17 MR. MENDENHALL: Well, are we -- how
18 fast.....

19

20 CHAIR CROSS: Or do we want to.....

21

22 MR. MENDENHALL: Let's take a look at our
23 agenda, which we never had. How long will it take for --
24 we're right now in the middle of his report, which we kind
25 of interrupted.

26

27 CHAIR CROSS: Uh-huh. But I wanted to
28 point this out, because it's getting close to five, and I'm
29 not sure if somebody's starving to death.

30

31 MR. MENDENHALL: I'm not going to blow
32 away.

33

34 CHAIR CROSS: No, we know you won't.
35 But.....

36

37 MS. DEGNAN: There's a phone right there.

38

39 MR. ANASOGAK: Listening to your comments
40 on subsistence fishing and commercial fishing, and I'm not
41 sure who can answer this question, but has maybe Charlie
42 Lean from fisheries department. I'm a commercial
43 fisherman, and I haven't used my permit for about eight,
44 nine years now, but I did it every year, and a question I
45 have with the decline of chum salmon, and the competition
46 between commercial fishing and subsistence fishing, has the
47 state ever thought of putting a quota on commercial fishing
48 rather than just shortening the fishing periods?

49

50 MR. MENDENHALL: We've done that. We've

00066

1 done.....

2

3 CHAIR CROSS: Before you go on, can you
4 just state your name for the record, please?

5

6 MR. ANASOGAK: Oscar Anasogak, Jr., from
7 Koyuk.

8

9 CHAIR CROSS: Thank you, Oscar. Charlie?

10

11 MR. LEAN: I'm Charlie Lean with the
12 Department of Fish and Game, and in a sense we have done
13 that. There -- most periods there's only one fish buyer in
14 Norton Sound that is willing to buy chum salmon, so when I
15 talk with him prior to the season, we talk about how many
16 salmon might be available for the fishery, and for their
17 sales. And with chum salmon, it used to be quite common to
18 catch 120,000 chums per year for the entire Norton Sound,
19 and in recent years, we've been estimating that the entire
20 chum take would allow a commercial fishery in the eastern
21 Norton Sound only, would be on the order of 40,000.

22

23 MR. BOYD: That's quite a drop.

24

25 MR. LEAN: The buyer -- that's all chums
26 taken, including the ones that were accidentally taken with
27 the king salmon or the silver salmon, the pink salmon. So
28 the buyer looked at that and said, gee, that's a pretty
29 tight market, and I want to be sure to get my full quota of
30 pinks and silvers, and so I -- and buyers told me, we're
31 not going to target chums. In the last several years, we
32 don't want to target chums, because we don't want you to
33 shut down the other salmon, so that we -- you know, we want
34 to maximize our harvest of kings and pinks and coho. So
35 it's not a publicly announced quota, it's in the management
36 plan that we publish every year, that we think we have a
37 relatively small allowable harvest of chum salmon, and in
38 effect it is working as if there were a quota, in the -- in
39 a sense it's driven the buyer away from buying chum salmon
40 where we thought we might have some.

41

42 This past season, we've had small harvestable
43 surpluses probably available at Unalakleet, Shaktoolik,
44 Koyuk. An additional problem that Koyuk faces is that the
45 buyer doesn't like the chums there in that they cost a lot
46 to transport, and they -- their color, and so they -- even
47 though Koyuk's probably the healthiest chum run in the
48 Norton Sound, with the Inglutalik and Ungalik Rivers, the
49 market hasn't been there.

50

00067

1 CHAIR CROSS: Does that answer your
2 question?

3
4 MR. ANASOGAK: Yes.

5
6 CHAIR CROSS: Thank you, Charlie. Well, so
7 we have --should we finish the in-season fisheries
8 management and then go to.....

9
10 MR. MENDENHALL: I would rather that we see
11 how far we could get with Tom's report.

12
13 CHAIR CROSS: Okay. And then.....

14
15 MR. MENDENHALL: And then supper and then
16 maybe return.

17
18 MS. DEGNAN: I think -- don't you have
19 supper at five o'clock?

20
21 MR. MENDENHALL: Why, do they have it.....

22
23 MS. DEGNAN: I think they.....

24
25 MR. MENDENHALL:at five only?

26
27 MS. DEGNAN: I think they have just a
28 window to eat.

29
30 MR. MENDENHALL: A hole in the wall?
31 Window.

32
33 MS. DEGNAN: I would call over there.

34
35 CHAIR CROSS: That is something that we
36 need to find out, too. They might have limited hours and
37 what time you can eat over there, so.....

38
39 MR. MENDENHALL: And could you call the
40 Browns? I mean, the lodge.

41
42 MS. DEGNAN: Yeah.

43
44 CHAIR CROSS:if we find that out,
45 that would give us a time we should -- when we should
46 recess for dinner.

47
48 MR. MENDENHALL: Okay. Maybe we could just
49 go till -- well, with the Iron Dog coming by, they might be
50 more opened than.....

00068

1 MS. DEGNAN: But that doesn't mean a thing.

2

3 CHAIR CROSS: Well, yesterday, because we
4 came in late, they made an exception for us to -- and then
5 every time a Iron Dog musher -- I mean person came, they
6 opened up for dinner.

7

8 MS. EAKON: They're going to play it by
9 ear, but they normally close by seven. Close serving
10 supper by seven.

11

12 MR. MENDENHALL: Let's see how far we get
13 till six.

14

15 CHAIR CROSS: Well, why don't -- we'll go
16 as far as to five, and then we'll go eat. And then we'll
17 come back and finish.

18

19 MS. DEGNAN: Uh-huh. Yeah. And go till
20 nine.

21

22 MR. MENDENHALL: Okay.

23

24 CHAIR CROSS: I think that's about the wise
25 thing to do.

26

27 MR. MENDENHALL: Yeah.

28

29 MS. DEGNAN: Come back at seven?

30

31 CHAIR CROSS: So we'll recess at five and
32 come back at.....

33

34 MS. DEGNAN: Seven.

35

36 MR. MENDENHALL: Seven.

37

38 CHAIR CROSS: Seven?

39

40 MS. DEGNAN: Seven, and then go till.....

41

42 MR. MENDENHALL: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

43

44 MS. DEGNAN:about nine.

45

46 MS. EAKON: Nine.

47

48 MR. MENDENHALL: Nine, 9:30.

49

50 CHAIR CROSS: And then we'll go -- well,

00069

1 yeah. Is everybody in agreement with coming back at seven
2 and then going till nine?

3
4 MS. EAKON: Does somebody have a key
5 to.....

6
7 MR. MENDENHALL: Yes.

8
9 CHAIR CROSS: That will give you a chance
10 to rest and think better.

11
12 MR. BUCK: Can we continue now?

13
14 CHAIR CROSS: Okay. So can we continue
15 now? Go ahead.

16
17 MR. BOYD: Sure. Madam Chair, I'm finished
18 with the in-season management report. If you don't have
19 any further comments or questions, I can move on to the
20 tribal involvement portion of the briefing.

21
22 CHAIR CROSS: Okay.

23
24 MR. MENDENHALL: Is that in here, too, this
25 2000 package or what?

26
27 MR. BOYD: That will be after the tribal
28 involvement. Rich will jump to that.

29
30 MS. DEGNAN: Madam Chair?

31
32 CHAIR CROSS: Uh-huh.

33
34 MS. DEGNAN: Before you get off that in-
35 season management, Mr. Buck brought up the, what you call
36 the subject of the extraterritorial jurisdiction,.....

37
38 MR. BOYD: Oh, that's right.

39
40 MS. DEGNAN:and the concern that our
41 fish are migratory, or -- okay. Fish meaning salmon.

42
43 MR. BOYD: Right.

44
45 MS. DEGNAN: Salmon are migratory, and he
46 had mentioned that it would be wise to incorporate in their
47 study as to what's happening to our region's salmon as part
48 of the management regime. And that's all I have.

49
50 MR. BUCK: And I'm wondering that.....

00070

1 MR. MENDENHALL: Yeah, it's on page 13 in
2 the minutes. Yeah.

3
4 MR. BUCK: I'm wondering if we can
5 incorporate in the -- our study of the extraterritorial
6 jurisdiction that we have, what's the process that we use
7 to get the extraterritorial? The main reason I'm concerned
8 is because of the fish in Nome/White Mountain area, and the
9 fish that come up from Area M or wherever they come from,
10 and I'd like a project, your in-season management project
11 of -- be in -- include the extraterritorial jurisdiction be
12 looked at for this Area M.

13
14 MR. BOYD: I hear what you're saying, and I
15 -- what I'm -- that may be one of the items that is going
16 to be -- the comment I think is best directed I think at
17 our process for, if I understand it correct, is at the
18 process for identifying issues to be studied for the
19 2001.....

20
21 MR. CANNON: For the new projects. Uh-huh.

22
23
24 MR. BOYD:process, and he will be
25 covering that in a minute.

26
27 MR. CANNON: Uh-huh.

28
29 MR. BOYD: But if I understand you, Mr.
30 Kobuk, what you're asking for is you're expressing concern
31 about the diminished salmon runs in this region and wanting
32 to basically study and find out what's happening so that
33 that can be addressed. Is that correct?

34
35 MR. BUCK: Is some of that money being
36 spent for that? Is there a project that's going on that is
37 studying that, the decline of the salmon?

38
39 MR. BOYD: Okay We haven't identified a
40 project for federal funding under this program yet, but
41 it's an issue that can be raised so that we can possibly
42 address it as part of research, but you may be able to
43 address is more as you.....

44
45 MR. MENDENHALL: That's on page 13 in the
46 minutes, that extraterritorial question.

47
48 MR. CANNON: Yeah. There's a lot of
49 interest from -- throughout Western Alaska in this subject
50 about the -- looking at the migration corridor of the

00071

1 salmon throughout the areas that they need to reproduce and
2 provide subsistence for people up and down the coast. This
3 is -- you know, has been for some time been an important
4 issue. It has not been identified through the process of
5 actually planning and developing a project. The reason for
6 that is that we really haven't started that process yet.
7 That won't start -- in fact, it starts tonight. We'll
8 start that process tonight for the 2001 issue
9 identification and information needs. So you'll have that
10 opportunity to identify that as a need.

11
12 There are other efforts on-going, however, to try
13 to address this question out in the oceans. And there are
14 monies that the University of Alaska has available; to wit,
15 to look at the production of salmon and the food for the
16 salmon in the ocean. That kind of research takes a long
17 time, and it's very expensive, so you probably won't get
18 answers to your questions for, you know, many, many years.
19 Okay. But that kind of research is being funded through
20 other sources of money. Yes?

21
22 MS. DEGNAN: Yeah, I know back when they
23 did the herring fishery out here, when the Japanese were
24 allowed with their big curtains of doom.....

25
26 CHAIR CROSS: Uh-huh.

27
28 MS. DEGNAN:out there, we didn't have
29 herring. Very little. So when they outlawed that, those
30 practices, they -- we got the build-up again of herring.
31 So that was because those -- probably the fishing effort
32 had diminished our stocks.

33
34 MR. KOBUK: That project will include high
35 seas drift net fishing and those ocean trawlers?

36
37 MR. CANNON: The project that I'm talking
38 about, I can give you more information about it, a little
39 -- I don't have a lot, I have a little bit about it, but
40 it's more of a science project where they're going out and
41 taking samples of the food, the zooplankton. They're
42 looking at the effect of climate on the production of
43 salmon food and the young salmon out in the ocean. They're
44 not directly addressing the affects of trawlers or other
45 by-catch issues. That -- those kinds of things are not
46 being studied. I'm talking about more of the scientific
47 studies that are being done to try to address those things
48 that are aren't influenced by human beings, the weather and
49 ocean -- ocean and weather patterns and their effect on
50 salmon are being studying.

00072

1 CHAIR CROSS: I guess for the information
2 for the rest of the RAC, I was given several papers
3 regarding some of the projects that are now on-going. I
4 just never had a chance to -- I sent them to Northwest
5 Alaska to be copied. We just never have -- and she sent it
6 directly back to me, so I just never had a chance to copy
7 them, but I'll have somebody copy and mail them to you
8 guys. Just an outline -- there's a draft on the Bering Sea
9 ecosystem research plan, and there's who's doing that, the
10 government agencies that are doing different kinds of
11 studies. It identifies who they are. And there's a
12 Coastal Marine Institute, and there's information on the
13 University of Alaska's projects and the amounts of dollars
14 they've been handing to different agencies to do different
15 studies. I just never had a chance to get anybody to copy
16 them, because I sent them to -- like I said, to Northwest,
17 and then they came directly back to me, but I'll have them
18 copied and mailed to you all.

19
20 MR. MENDENHALL: Is that federal studies or
21 state studies?

22
23 CHAIR CROSS: Some state, some federal,
24 some private, some universities. There's a whole bunch
25 studying different aspects.

26
27 MR. BUCK: I'd like -- with all our
28 satellites and the infra red pictures that they can receive
29 through technology, I'd like to make sure that all the --
30 all our resources are being useful. If they can take
31 infrared pictures of plankton, of where they're going, they
32 probably can take pictures of fish of where they're going
33 day-by-day during their in-season, and get that -- find out
34 where all the plankton are going, and where all the fish
35 are going, see if they can identify the different species
36 of fish that travel in the area. I'd like to make sure
37 that all the avenues that we can pursue be used. I'd just
38 like to see that.

39
40 MR. BOYD: I think this discussion will get
41 fuller I think when -- after Rich and Mary do their
42 briefing on the studies program that we're initiating,
43 so.....

44
45 MS. DEGNAN: Thank you.

46
47 MR. BOYD: Yeah. I could go on to the
48 tribal involvement now, if you're ready?

49
50 MR. KOBUK: Yes.

00073

1 CHAIR CROSS: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

2

3 MR. BOYD: Okay. That's one of those that
4 got turned around in this package by the way, and so
5 there's a briefing paper that begins on the seventh page
6 in, and the -- wait a minute. I'm sorry, the fifth page
7 in, and you have to back up a page to get the full paper,
8 so.....

9

10 CHAIR CROSS: Are you counting the.....

11

12 MR. BOYD: Yeah, the top page.

13

14 CHAIR CROSS:cover page as.....

15

16 MR. BOYD: Yeah, I'm talk.....

17

18 CHAIR CROSS:page one?

19

20 MR. BOYD: Yeah, right. Yes, ma'am.

21

22 MR. BUCK: Number one?

23

24 CHAIR CROSS: And which ones were turned
25 around?

26

27 MR. KOBUK: Okay. I see what you.....

28

29 MR. BOYD: The -- you begin on page five
30 and then work backward to page four, and then to page
31 three. It's in.....

32

33 CHAIR CROSS: Okay.

34

35 MR. BOYD:that sequence. Yeah. What
36 -- let me just explain briefly that Helga very dutifully
37 had all of this ready, shipped it via Pen Air, and it's
38 stuck at Pen Air. And then quickly before this meeting
39 today -- that was yesterday when things got haywire with
40 the weather. And then today quickly before this meeting,
41 she went, where is it, next door or something, to get it
42 copied, and we had a mistake in the order come back, so we
43 apologize for that.

44

45 With regard to tribal involvement, this is not an
46 new issue to you. This was introduced to you at the
47 orientation session at the end of January. We had received
48 the three letters from AVCP, AFN and then AITC/RurAL Cap
49 sent a letter as well. And those were shared with you at
50 the orientation session. And we were intending to get your

00074

1 advice on how the regional advisory councils and the tribes
2 should interact.

3
4 Basically to summarize, the three letter expressed
5 concerns about the lack of meaningful participation by
6 tribes in the early stages of program planning, and they
7 referred to three areas of involvement, tribal -- by --
8 from tribal participation as (1) in the process for
9 identifying resource monitoring projects for the year 2000,
10 or developing a process for identifying monitoring projects
11 for 2001. And second was in preparation of the
12 federal/state memorandum of understanding. And third,
13 drafting the operational strategy for information
14 management. That was our plan that kicked this whole
15 process off. Basically they felt that they weren't
16 involved up front, and wanted more meaningful involvement,
17 and that was the theme of the letters that they sent to us.

18
19 And in those letters they provided five
20 recommendations to remedy those problems. And the first
21 was that five tribal representatives be added to the
22 interagency technical committee; second, that federal
23 managers immediately convene a meeting of tribal leaders
24 and Alaska Department of Fish and Game to seek native
25 recommendations for priority research and information
26 projects for the 2000 season; third, that no action be
27 taken under the operational strategy for informational
28 management until it has been reviewed by the tribal leaders
29 and their concerns are addressed; fourth, that the draft
30 project planning process for 2001 be put on hold until the
31 tribes obtain representation in the drafting process; and
32 fifth, that tribal representation be included in future MO
33 -- I'll say MOA discussions now, between state and federal
34 representatives; and the last recommendation was that
35 federal managers contract with tribes for liaison and staff
36 support to the federal board and for administrative
37 staffing of the ten regional advisory councils.

38
39 We got comments from you at the January orientation
40 session and we summarized those on that third page that I
41 mentioned you have to back up to. I won't go through all
42 of those, but I think there was a lot of concern expressed
43 at that meeting by the councils and their role in the
44 process, and that that not be substituted for any tribal
45 representation in the process.

46
47 MR. MENDENHALL: That tribal could mean
48 IRAs, native corporations, village councils,.....

49
50 MR. BOYD: I don't know if we.....

00075

1 MR. MENDENHALL:is that correct?

2

3 MR. BOYD:necessarily tried to
4 interpret what.....

5

6 MR. MENDENHALL: No, I mean, no.....

7

8 MR. BOYD:that means.

9

10 MR. MENDENHALL:real true definition
11 as to tribal affiliations,.....

12

13 MR. BOYD: Well, I think we interpreted
14 it.....

15

16 MR. MENDENHALL:because AFN
17 recognized corporations, IRAs,.....

18

19 MR. BOYD: Okay.

20

21 MR. MENDENHALL:village councils.

22

23 MR. BOYD: That we interpreted tribe to
24 mean one of the 227.....

25

26 MR. MENDENHALL: Okay. Either.....

27

28 MR. BOYD:recognized tribes.

29

30 MR. MENDENHALL:listed under ANCSA
31 law and ANILCA?

32

33 MS. DEGNAN: That's what I consider.....

34

35 MR. BOYD: That.....

36

37 MS. DEGNAN:tribe, is.....

38

39 CHAIR CROSS: That's that I.....

40

41 MS. DEGNAN:the legal.....

42

43 MR. BOYD: Yeah.

44

45 MS. DEGNAN:definition of the tribe,
46 and they're listed.

47

48 MR. MENDENHALL: Yeah, 'cause there's.....

49

50 MS. DEGNAN: And.....

00076

1 MR. MENDENHALL:200 and some in that
2 ANCSA.

3
4 MR. BOYD: Twenty-seven.

5
6 MR. CANNON: Twenty-seven.

7
8 MS. DEGNAN: And I believe that you could
9 use them as a government-to-government relationship,
10 federal, state and tribe, and you have a legal mechanism
11 there, and that's -- you can transfer funds between the
12 three on a.....

13
14 MR. BOYD: Uh-huh.

15
16 MS. DEGNAN:government-to-government
17 basis.

18
19 MR. BUCK: With our federal status, I think
20 the IRAs should be -- definitely would be recognized as any
21 good resource.

22
23 MR. MENDENHALL: Well, also membership is
24 also through ownership of land, and that's tribal in ANCSA
25 as well, you know.

26
27 MS. DEGNAN: But your tribal membership is
28 -- goes descendency from those who are -- like I'm on the
29 Unalakleet -- in the Unalakleet tribe, Native Village of
30 Unalakleet, and there are a lot of members that are members
31 of Unalakleet Native Village that are not village
32 corporation members, and they won't be unless they get
33 inheritance.

34
35 MR. MENDENHALL: Uh-huh.

36
37 CHAIR CROSS: That's true.

38
39 MR. BUCK: The same thing with White
40 Mountain.

41
42 MR. MENDENHALL: But again in the region
43 all affiliation of the region is of land ownership as well.
44 And that's one of the -- I think that was addressed in the
45 AFN resolution is to go before ANCSA corporations,.....

46
47 CHAIR CROSS: I.....

48
49 MR. MENDENHALL:that it be election
50 to them to go -- to declare their land Indian country so

00077

1 they can go under federal management.

2

3 CHAIR CROSS: I think once again.....

4

5 MR. MENDENHALL: And that's -- that was
6 predominantly with all 12 regions, you know, with 220
7 native cor -- village corporations, so you've got that
8 ownership and a lot of them have big bucks to go in with
9 that subsistence.

10

11 CHAIR CROSS: I always think it would in
12 the best interest of the federal government to go to the
13 tribes themselves, not to an integration of tribes, because
14 there are some tribes that are not represented that may not
15 think the same way as AFN's direction is going.

16

17 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Uh-huh.

18

19 CHAIR CROSS: That each tribe be treated as
20 a separate entity and be free to negotiate at their will,
21 instead of being represented by like Washington, D.C.,
22 which sort of like AFN would be.

23

24 MS. DEGNAN: And that's the.....

25

26 CHAIR CROSS: It's probably for lack.....

27

28 MS. DEGNAN:way I feel, too.

29

30 CHAIR CROSS:of a better word, too.
31 I think.....

32

33 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: I think.....

34

35 CHAIR CROSS:that each tribe, because
36 our regions are so different, and because of our problems
37 are so different within each tribal land, then they should
38 be dealt with on separate basis.

39

40 MR. BUCK: I think they should be kept.....

41

42 MR. MENDENHALL: Because this definitions
43 of recognized tribes,.....

44

45 MR. BUCK: Yeah.

46

47 MR. MENDENHALL:you know, under
48 ANCSA.

49

50 MR. BUCK: I think the native corporations

00078

1 and the IRAs should be kept separated, too, because even
2 between villages, between White Mountain and Council, the
3 same people that belong on the native corporation are also
4 members of the IRA in Council. But in White Mountain it's
5 not. Some are members of the IRA, and the native
6 corporation, but some are not, because they -- they're both
7 -- they're two separate organizations. But in Council
8 they're same organization, but I think we need to look at
9 the recognition that -- of the status of the IRAs, the
10 IRA's status should definitely be recognized.

11
12 MR. MENDENHALL: I mean, it -- in the
13 resolutions as it passed of last week is up -- it will be
14 up to each tribe to do their election, both tribal and
15 ANCSA, those tribes would define that themselves, rather than
16 have an outside interest trying to define like Nome. Like
17 you wouldn't want to go to say St. Michael, well, you can't
18 have -- or Unalakleet, you can't -- you're -- you can't
19 have any dealings with your native corporation, because
20 you're a tribe, and et cetera. I can't do that. And I
21 don't think any village entity, tribe or ANCSA would want
22 to have that. They would have to agree together like --
23 there's a lot of things that Nome does where we have
24 memorandums of agreements with Nome Eskimo, to our ANCSA
25 corporation. So I think there's -- and that came out
26 clearly last week during the AFN, and it was identified
27 that we want unity on subsistence, we're not going to fight
28 among each other. We go back to our tribes based on those
29 resolutions coming out. And I think the whole point is
30 unity being the strongest voice, what we did last week.
31 And I think it's -- under the spirit of that, and I think
32 we need to not be defining lines right now at our level
33 until they work that out themselves.

34
35 CHAIR CROSS: I think the spirit was well
36 -- is well taken by those of us that are in rural Alaska.
37 But at the same time, I don't think it's representative of
38 the entire native community, tribal communities, in each of
39 the communi- -- it's not a represen -- okay, how am I going
40 to put this? It doesn't mean that the tribes are all in
41 agreement with it. That's why I'm saying that instead of
42 making an over-all statement to the state because of a
43 group of people meeting and agreeing upon without going
44 back to the tribes and asking them what do you want? We
45 think this is what you want. I think that's another
46 example of we think this is what you want, so therefore
47 we're going to represent you this way.

48
49 MR. MENDENHALL: Well, I'm just saying
50 that.....

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1 CHAIR CROSS: It's good that.....

2

3 MR. MENDENHALL:there's some outs.

4

5 CHAIR CROSS:it happened, and it's
6 good that there's going to be a collective effort to make
7 changes, but when it comes own to tribal to government
8 relationship, I think that should be left up to the tribes,
9 and be left like that. That's my personal opinion. I may
10 be wrong, but that's my opinion. Fran?

11

12 MS. DEGNAN: Well, I -- on the 11 comments,
13 the one that, you know, expresses it in my opinion is
14 number 10, is to see high level of involvement of tribes
15 with the federal subsistence program, and the regional
16 councils, because your tribe is your -- the level that's
17 where the user belongs.

18

19 MR. MENDENHALL: This is Alaska native-
20 slash-tribal, so it's covered.

21

22 MS. DEGNAN: So I like that number 10.....

23

24 MR. MENDENHALL: Uh-huh.

25

26 MS. DEGNAN:in terms of what we are
27 is preserve the user's ability to keep his body intact with
28 his soul for subsistence.

29

30 MR. MENDENHALL: Also on number 4. See,
31 number 4 is also there, tribes get involved.

32

33 CHAIR CROSS: I guess the bottom line to me
34 is that whatever happens, it's of utmost importance that
35 the tribes be the individuals that would be the basis of
36 making decisions in what happen to fisheries.

37

38 MR. MENDENHALL: The other fact is we have
39 a lot of -- we have fish camp, subsistence camp that we
40 gave out to all our membership, and even nonmembers that
41 are not members of our corporation, for fish camps in Nome.

42

43 CHAIR CROSS: And there's no fish.

44

45 MR. MENDENHALL: So -- but there's no fish.
46 Maybe we need as the Tribe of Nome, kick out the ones that
47 don't belong to Nome to not fish, that could be our
48 attitude, too.

49

50 MS. EAKON: Madam Chair, up to this point

00080

1 in time when our program has discussed tribes, it has
2 always been in reference to those tribes listed in the
3 Federal Register notice. That is our official.....

4
5 MR. BOYD: Uh-huh.

6
7 MS. EAKON:official baseline
8 document. I just wanted to clarify that.

9
10 MR. KOBUK: Is that.....

11
12 CHAIR CROSS: Thank you.

13
14 MR. BUCK: And I'd like to say that we
15 covered these topics in the Anchorage meeting, going round
16 and round and round on them, and I think we should.....

17
18 MR. KOBUK: Continue.

19
20 MR. BUCK: What you said, I agree with
21 that, that the Federal Register are the ones that we
22 recognize.

23
24 MS. DEGNAN: That we do recognize those
25 tribes that are in the Register.

26
27 CHAIR CROSS: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)
28 That's exactly.

29
30 MS. DEGNAN: And that we will give them --
31 they'll be a basis for input.

32
33 MR. BOYD: Madam Chair, what you're doing
34 here is exactly what we were going to ask you to do, and
35 that is either elaborate on the comments that you made or
36 add to it, or emphasize certain ones. The Board is still
37 looking for your input on how to react, or to involve the
38 tribes in our process. I could go on to say that the Board
39 met with the people who wrote the letters that you receive
40 -- that we received, that we shared with you in January,
41 and met with them on February 3rd, and it was a good,
42 candid exchange, and I think the Board outlined in the
43 discussion the way the program works now, the importance of
44 the regional advisory councils, and how the councils are
45 involved in the process. I think there was still some
46 concern on the part of the correspondents that there be
47 more tribal involvement, and I think what we're trying to
48 do here is achieve some sense of -- I don't know if the
49 word, the right word is balance here, but some
50 understanding of how the process currently works, and how

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1 the tribes can get integrated into the process. So the
2 Board was looking for your -- I think your collective
3 wisdom on this particular topic still. Even though you got
4 to see this in January, you get another chance during these
5 meetings, so that's kind of where we're at. And you've
6 been discussing it, and I've been capturing some of the
7 thoughts that you've been writ- -- you've been stating.

8
9 MR. MENDENHALL: There's movements across
10 the whole state, we know. We're all trying to defend
11 subsistence at this point.....

12
13 MR. BOYD: Uh-huh. Right.

14
15 MR. MENDENHALL:as a unity. And I
16 would prefer that we as a people, native people of Alaska,
17 we have that spirit, go in that spirit of unity and defense
18 of subsistence. Not just on fish, but on game as well.
19 It's 5:00 o'clock right now according to your.....

20
21 MS. DEGNAN: Yeah. Five o'clock, yeah.

22
23 CHAIR CROSS: Yeah, I was going to mention
24 it's five o'clock, and then there's so many of us, and lord
25 knows how many snowmachiners are over there, it might take
26 a while to be served dinner, so let's recess for now and
27 come back at seven. It is now five o'clock.

28
29 (Off record - 5:00 p.m.)

30
31 (On record - 7:08 p.m.)

32
33 CHAIR CROSS: In the interest of time I
34 guess, are you ready? Okay. I'll call the meeting back to
35 order. It is now 7:08 p.m., and I'll turn the -- I'll turn
36 it back to Mr. Boyd.

37
38 MR. BOYD: Madam Chair, I've concluded the
39 items that I was going to cover, and I would like to
40 introduce to you Richard Cannon and Mary -- Mary, are you
41 going to -- She's right up there, Mary McBurney. Richard
42 is working with us at the Fish and Wildlife Service in the
43 office for the -- that we're setting up to develop our
44 resource monitor- -- resource and harvesting monitoring
45 program, and Mary is with the Park Service and has been
46 working on the subcommittee that's been developing the 2000
47 resource monitoring projects list. So I'm going to turn it
48 over to Rich.

49
50 CHAIR CROSS: Okay.

00082

1 MR. BOYD: And I might also add, if you
2 haven't gathered already, that Rich is formerly with the
3 Alaska Department of Fish and Game. You may from working
4 in this region, primarily in the Yukon River I guess.
5 You.....

6
7 MR. CANNON: Actually throughout the Yukon,
8 Kuskokwim and Norton Sound, Kotzebue.

9
10 MR. BOYD: He has a wealth of experience
11 here. We're lucky.....

12
13 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: What's his name?

14
15 (Laughter)

16
17 MR. BOYD: We feel fortunate that he's
18 joined us, and so Rich is going to present to you the
19 overview of the 2000 process and 2001. Do you want to join
20 us, Mary, up here?

21
22 MS. MCBURNEY: Sure.

23
24 MR. BOYD: Okay.

25
26 MR. CANNON: Thanks, Tom, and I'd like to
27 turn the council's attention to a handout that you should
28 have. It's titled Unified Fisheries Resource Monitoring
29 Program, Status Report. This report is divided up into
30 three sections. Has everyone found it? Okay. Has
31 everyone able to locate that report? Okay. It's divided
32 up into three sections. The first section is -- identifies
33 the projects for -- that will be -- that were funded and
34 we'll -- in the February meeting of the Board, Federal
35 Subsistence Board, there were 17 projects funded, and those
36 that were funded for the Bering Straits, that were funded
37 for the Kotzebue, Arctic and Norton Sound regions are in
38 this packet. Okay. There are three -- there are two
39 projects that were funded in February, and then there's an
40 additional project, the Kotzebue Winter Subsistence Shee
41 Fish project, that is being considered for funding, and it
42 will be taken up in April. Okay. And we'll be talking
43 about those a little more in a minute.

44
45 In the second section there's -- the title is
46 resource monitoring projects selection process for spring
47 2001. Now, some of this information was provided to you at
48 the orientation meeting in Anchorage in January, so you'll
49 be seeing that again. We'll begin applying that tonight to
50 begin identifying issues and information needs for your

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1 region. And then in the third section of this handout are
2 some of the earlier prioritizations that were done by
3 agency staff, input to some degree from reports, existing
4 reports that were available to begin to identify some of
5 the issues and information needs for this area. And
6 they're contained in the material that follows.

7
8 As I begin this, I'd first like to address Peter's
9 question about how the money was spent. There were \$10
10 million allocated for projects basically for FY 2000.
11 About \$3 million of those went to the Department of
12 Agriculture for Forest Service projects, and they're --
13 primarily will be directed to proj -- various projects in
14 Southeast Alaska, and in the Gulf of Alaska where there --
15 the large national forests are. About \$7,000 actually will
16 be -- were allocated for.....

17
18 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Seven million or.....

19
20 MR. CANNON: Or, excuse me, seven million
21 were allocated for Department of Interior Projects and
22 about 60 percent of that were used -- about 60 percent of
23 that amount were to be made available for actual field
24 programs. And so that -- so about 3.8 to \$4 million. The
25 projects that have been funded to this point, those that
26 were -- the two projects that were funded in December by
27 the Federal Subsistence Board, and the 17 projects that
28 were approved in February totaled about \$2 million. So
29 there's another roughly \$2 million worth of projects that
30 will be considered during this time period, and will be --
31 a final selection will be made sometime in April.

32
33 As you know, the Federal Subsistence Board wanted
34 to make the FY 2000 funds available for projects that could
35 be put in the field this season. In order to do that, they
36 had to use an abbreviated process. The emphasis on
37 projects that were included in this were those that were
38 built on existing planning efforts. So there was quite a
39 bit of work already done with these projects, and they had
40 already included a good deal of local support and local
41 partnership building, which is extremely important.

42
43 In developing the April package, the agencies
44 basically are going to use the same kind of criteria, the
45 same kind of considerations that they did for the February
46 evaluations. So those projects that had planning done,
47 those projects that had local consultation will be the ones
48 that will be moved forward for Federal Subsistence Board
49 consideration.

50

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1 If we look now at the projects that were approved
2 in February for this area, or for this region, you'll see
3 that the first project is this northwestern arctic char
4 stock identification project. And the intent of this
5 project is to develop some stock identifiers for the char
6 populations in the Kotzebue area, and to compare those with
7 populations to the north and south. And this is kind of a
8 test project to see if this kind of a technique can
9 actually work, and if it is successful, then it could be
10 applied to other stocks throughout the region. This is
11 important, because char like salmon are -- you know, are a
12 migratory species. Char populations -- you know, char can
13 move between Alaskan rivers as -- into Siberia. So it's
14 important to understand their distribution, where they're
15 going, you know, during their life history. So this kind
16 of information would provide the biologists, federal
17 biologists and state biologists with the ability to begin
18 understanding their life history more completely.

19
20 The second project is related to that, and it is a
21 project that will begin looking at where char occur and
22 trying to evaluate their abundance in the North Slope.
23 Okay. In the North Slope areas. And samples from the
24 rivers, and if you look at the study objectives, you can
25 see where the various rivers that they're considering
26 looking at occur, and this would then be a project that
27 would be compatible with the one that would be done in
28 Kotzebue.

29
30 Okay. These are the two that have actually -- two
31 projects that have been approved by the Board for funding
32 to this point in time.

33
34 MS. DEGNAN: Yeah. Do you -- the cost
35 allocated to them,.....

36
37 MR. CANNON: The.....

38
39 MS. DEGNAN:it says right here, it's
40 probably \$10,000 on the first one? Not.....

41
42 MR. CANNON: Right. That.....

43
44 MS. DEGNAN: You'd think that was ten
45 bucks.

46
47 MR. CANNON: On the first project, the
48 actual cost is closer to 91,000.

49
50 MS. DEGNAN: Uh-huh. Now, who makes the --

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1 how do you determine what will be the cost by project?

2
3 MR. CANNON: The.....

4
5 MS. DEGNAN: Is it the number of persons
6 you're going to employ,.....

7
8 MR. CANNON: Yes.

9
10 MS. DEGNAN:and the travel costs, et
11 cetera?

12
13 MR. CANNON: Right.

14
15 MS. DEGNAN: So that's what I was wondering
16 on, you know, the costs. How you come about. And another
17 question that I had, when looking at all the projects that
18 were approved for this year, and where are the -- where's
19 the emphasis or impetus for getting those projects going?
20 Is it from the local level or is it from agencies meeting,
21 saying that these are the species of interest, so this is
22 where we're going to look for them?

23
24 MR. CANNON: Frances, there -- I think to
25 some degree it's both at this point. Again, this is an
26 abbreviated process, and so a lot of these projects were
27 things that were of interest to the agencies,.....

28
29 MS. DEGNAN: Uh-huh.

30
31 MR. CANNON:but they also had been
32 talking to local people.

33
34 MS. DEGNAN: Uh-huh.

35
36 MR. CANNON: And often they were issues
37 that had been brought up through advisory committees, or in
38 some cases the regional advisory councils, is they
39 identified issues in their area.

40
41 MS. DEGNAN: Uh-huh.

42
43 MR. CANNON: And if you look at, on the
44 project description, there's a section on consultations for
45 each one. And it in a summary fashion will describe the
46 level of local involvement that's occurred with the
47 project.

48
49 MR. MENDENHALL: Just like we did with the
50 counting towers,.....

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1 MR. CANNON: Yes.

2
3 MR. MENDENHALL:so to speak where all
4 agencies and local groups had divvy up everything to cover
5 eight rivers. Here like in that number 1 is their
6 partnership with Maniilaq, which has -- when there's a
7 great deal of impact I think, because there's some monies
8 and salaries involved there. Number two also deals with
9 that, too, with their partnership with their Department of
10 Wildlife, because they have -- because they're so rich
11 anyway, I mean, matching funds type.

12
13 MS. DEGNAN: And then following that same
14 thought, the concern in this region is the depletion of the
15 salmon, and then extraterritorial, so that would be, you
16 know, an area that we would request a project looking
17 towards the future,.....

18
19 CHAIR CROSS: Uh-huh.

20
21 MS. DEGNAN:because it's an important
22 subsistence resource, and it's important for sports fishing
23 and also commercial fishing, but we're looking in terms of,
24 you know, most impacted. So when you're looking in that
25 way, I have no idea how much it would cost, but then you'd
26 think that in this region that local knowledge is really
27 important, and then you have the data bank base, you know,
28 supported by the state Fish and Game, but yet at the same
29 time, it's local users that know where they are,.....

30
31 MR. CANNON: Uh-huh.

32
33 MS. DEGNAN:and following that, in
34 testimony and concerns raised as to why diminishing stocks
35 of the salmon or -- you know, supposedly to the migratory
36 patterns, but also in the spawning areas with the bear
37 population and also over, what do you call it, the catch
38 and release thing with sports fishery, that sort of thing.
39 And local knowledge I think would be your best -- and
40 looking in terms of project monies allocation, that a good
41 portion of that money should just remain in the local area
42 rather than it going Outside.

43
44 MR. CANNON: I think that what we're seeing
45 from the way these projects are being identified is that
46 it's definitely coming from -- interest coming from the
47 local area, and then as Perry was saying, then there's this
48 idea of building partnerships so that people are sharing
49 the resources they have to try to put these projects
50 together. And with regard to these projects, they -- you

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1 know, if these tools work, it will be very valuable to
2 develop a base line for understanding more about these char
3 before we get to the point, you know, at some point where
4 they may start to decline. And we'd have a better
5 understanding of what was happening to them if we get
6 started with this now.

7
8 MR. MENDENHALL: They could expand it, you
9 know, to include Bering Sea area, because of the migratory
10 of arctic char, trout to Russia waters and to Russia
11 streams and Alaska streams, too. And there's some things
12 that could be said in that area, and which you said, be
13 accountable, because we do have a lot more trout than
14 normal in some streams of Nome than we do -- did in the
15 past. So there's some impact there on our trout counts,
16 too. And it's unknown about their migratory between Russia
17 mainland and Alaska mainland. But see, we never had that
18 opportunity and luxury to -- as a RAC to make preparation
19 for a proposal, such a proposal, how it would impact our
20 area.

21
22 CHAIR CROSS: I think originally when this
23 was happening, that it was inclusive. There was just not
24 enough participation from -- each of the RACs should have
25 had a representation so we could have been adequately
26 represented, and our concerns at least would have gotten in
27 writing. But when this originally -- if I remember
28 correctly, when this was originally started, there was
29 criticism to the Federal Subsistence Board that the RACs
30 were not included, and only two members of the RAC were
31 allowed to participate. Consequently, in just reading
32 where the monies are going, you could see that the two
33 members certainly have had a lot of impact on -- within
34 their regions, which is good. Which leads me to believe
35 that if other RAC chairs were involved, then perhaps some
36 of our concerns would have been funded.

37
38 But because we were not there actively
39 participating in the process, -- and I kind of call it --
40 it seems to me that we consistently do that including with
41 the MOA. The decisions are made, and when it finally falls
42 down in the -- when it's finally handed down to the RAC,
43 there's a certain amount of hostility and anger, and
44 finally the RACs are involved in it, and only a selected
45 few are, so therefore, like in our region, it -- now you're
46 hearing criticism about it. Had there been inclusiveness
47 from the beginning, perhaps you could avoid a few more
48 problems, and people would feel more included in the
49 planning process. It's something that you really have to
50 look for regardless of cost from the very beginning. I

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1 would really encourage that, because the more you involve
2 the RACS, at least the chairs of the RACs to be included
3 from the planning process, however you do it. It could be
4 through questionnaires, it could be through telephone
5 calls, or it could be through one meeting. You'll have
6 less sort of concerns that -- what I'm presenting,.....

7
8 MR. BOYD: Right.

9
10 CHAIR CROSS:because then you feel
11 like you're included, and then you have some voice in it.
12 At least your area's concerns have been heard. And I'm
13 glad this is happening. It's a beginning. Perry?

14
15 MR. MENDENHALL: In looking at our region,
16 too, and how we get some of this, how we do in winter
17 studies on some streams as to climatic changes being done
18 on the frozen rivers and streams that go all the way down
19 to the river beds that impact eggs and things of that
20 nature, of -- that might affect the returns of chums four
21 years down the line. And I find that very much lacking in
22 summer studies. They do -- they're willing to do spring,
23 summer, you know, and it looks kind of -- when the -- when
24 there's no ice, but when there's ice, we don't see any
25 studies going on on that aspect of impact of chums. It
26 might even impact your arctic char as well where they are
27 frozen and depleted stocks. I don't know how that could be
28 tied in, because we've only got a few of our rivers
29 dedicated to federal management schemes, and so.....

30
31 CHAIR CROSS: But.....

32
33 MR. MENDENHALL:the only rivers we've
34 got is what's on this, Unalakleet, Koyuk, and where else?

35
36 MS. DEGNAN: Up on the Serpentine.

37
38 MR. MENDENHALL: Kuzitrin and those areas.
39 Serpentine. Not too much around Nome, because it's
40 supposedly under the state jurisdiction.

41
42 CHAIR CROSS: But it seems to me though
43 that when there's a decline in fish and game, whether or not
44 one certain part of the state belongs to a certain
45 government entity, there should be enough concern between
46 the state and the federal government to start working
47 together to resolve a problem. If you just do -- if you
48 keep being separate from each other, and not working
49 together, those problems are going to expand more and more,
50 and Nome is a classic example. Because we have no federal

00089

1 lands in Nome, the federal government chooses to ignore us.
2 The federal government it seems to me will not put any
3 bucks until Unalakleet River is impacted, and those in
4 National Park Service are, and then more and more people
5 you have to -- subsistence way of life is going to decline
6 even more so. And what's happening is because the state
7 and the federal government didn't pay too much attention to
8 state from the beginning, we the native people of Nome are
9 moving outward to get the salmon that we need, impacting
10 you -- the lands that are in your -- your federal lands.
11 Impacting Unalakleet River, impacting upper National Park
12 Services.

13
14 If things are going to be successful, both entities
15 have to work together to come up with solutions. Otherwise
16 you're going to see more of Nome throughout this --
17 throughout Alaska. That's my comment. Anybody else?

18
19 MR. CANNON: One of the things that is
20 still going to occur, of course, as I mentioned, is that
21 there -- we're going to be looking at approximately another
22 30 projects, and one of those -- the one project that is
23 being considered for April is the one that looks at
24 Kotzebue winter subsistence shee fish harvest. But I don't
25 know at this point if there are projects that are at the
26 point where they could be recommended at this late date for
27 this area, and still get them in the water by the time that
28 the field season would begin. But this is the only one
29 that is at this point that's being -- going to be
30 considered.

31
32 MR. MENDENHALL: Well, in our case it might
33 be looking at the high sea intercept type situations. You
34 know, and the -- you guys have got federal agencies out
35 there, CDQs and everything out there, and then -- but how
36 does it impact the fish passing by subsistence users on the
37 mainland, regardless of federal or state. That's probably
38 -- I mean, it looks like it's going to mirror -- the crash
39 is going to mirror down the Yukon, lower Yukon eventually
40 at the rate we're going outside of Nome, too. So I think
41 looking at the high sea just to get a data base and a
42 correlation of data as to what they catch out there versus
43 what is being caught on mainland. Subsistence users. I
44 don't know if that's every going to be looked at, because
45 everybody out on the high sea is mostly into commercial,
46 and they've go the biggest lawyers, everything to fight
47 against us subsistence users that don't have the lawyers.
48 That's the big enemy right there is the commercial fleets
49 tend to have more defense in their -- when they attend fish
50 board meetings, whether federal or state jurisdictions.

00090

1 I -- the message that we tend to get from our
2 elders is that there's too many lines, divisions on
3 subsistence versus commercial, and it tends to be more
4 blinding to making decisions common -- I mean, conservation
5 decisions on what fish comes back, and eventually our -- at
6 AFN the whole body on the AFN floor, they said this is the
7 first time we're addressing subsistence totally, not based
8 on commercial, and that's the first movement in Alaska that
9 we've ever seen at AFN in over 25 years. So I think
10 there's going to be more movement of that, where natives
11 are going to point to that factor, too much division
12 between high sea and creek -- the creek beds. River beds.
13 So I'm just putting that on the record, because I think
14 there's going to have to be more correlation, more
15 cooperation than just between like why just Kotzebue, why
16 just North Sloper, and Nome/Bering Sea doesn't get
17 anything.

18
19 MR. BOYD: I might add something here. You
20 know, Perry, I'm hearing you say there's a bigger issue
21 than just the local issues, and.....

22
23 MR. MENDENHALL: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

24
25 MR. BOYD:and I've heard it all this
26 meeting actually, and other meetings that I've attended,
27 that the focus should be on sort of some of the systemwide
28 issues that are -- things that are occurring out on the
29 Bering Sea. Some things are already on-going, as mentioned
30 earlier. I think we want to catch -- we're hearing things
31 that are issues that we have to look long term with.

32
33 Our limitations for dealing with the 2000 projects,
34 in that we had a very short time to get things up and
35 running, was to try to find projects that were already
36 planned, and with potential for getting partners on board
37 very quickly, and that was some of the -- and we were
38 focusing on.....

39
40 MR. MENDENHALL: Uh-huh. But also pointing
41 to where state agencies and federal agencies commingle
42 their.....

43
44 MR. BOYD: Exactly.

45
46 MR. MENDENHALL:studies together so
47 that they come up with an over-all.....

48
49 MR. BOYD: And we were trying.....

50

00091

1 MR. MENDENHALL:view rather than
2 piecemeal.

3
4 MR. BOYD:to do that, too, I mean --
5 exactly. We were trying to do that as well.

6
7 MR. MENDENHALL: Uh-huh.

8
9 MR. BOYD: And so some of the things you're
10 identifying I think are more long-term issues that we're
11 going to be looking at as we look forward and develop our
12 planning for 2001. It's going to be very difficult to get
13 something off the ground of the scale and magnitude that
14 you're talking about in just a couple of months. It just
15 won't happen. But I'm hearing the issues, and I think this
16 is a good dialogue. I think everything I'm hearing is very
17 much on point to what's going on in this region, and there
18 needs to get a handle on it. How realistic it is to do
19 that in short order, I don't think it is, but it's
20 something that we're hearing and we want to capture for our
21 future planning process. So that's what -- I think that's
22 the value of this discussion.

23
24 MR. CANNON: If I could then, I would like
25 to move on to the second part of this.....

26
27 MR. BOYD: Rich, I think.....

28
29 MR. CANNON: Yes. Yeah. This discussion,
30 and that's the resource monitoring projects selection
31 process for spring 2001. And again this is a much more
32 consultative process. There's a much longer period of time
33 for the regional councils, regional organizations, the
34 tribes, individual subsistence users to have input into
35 this process. So if you turn to this second sec- -- the
36 second section of the handout, and then turn to this page
37 that goes through the time sequence, the scheduling of the
38 steps for this process, I'd like to just quickly go through
39 that with you. And then we can talk about it, and then
40 we'll begin to apply that process tonight with the first
41 step which is prioritization of management issues and
42 information needs.

43
44 So as you can see as we look down through this
45 process, that beginning with your winter meeting, that you
46 begin to identify issues and information needs. And this
47 is an opportunity for people to the regional councils about
48 the issues that they're facing in their subsistence
49 fisheries, and the needs that they have for information to
50 deal with these problems. That information then will be

00092

1 taken by staff and put into a report that will be taken
2 back to the Federal Subsistence Board, and there will be an
3 information and issues needs identification for each region
4 provided. And on the basis of that, then the tribal
5 organizations, local regional groups, the agencies can sit
6 down and begin to develop preproposals that identify what
7 might be done in the way of projects to address these
8 issues. The preproposal step is a way of trying to very
9 quickly identify those proposals that have the best chance
10 of success, and for those that have good consultation,
11 there's partnerships developed, there's good techni --
12 there's a good technical input into them, then they will
13 then be -- a full proposal will be developed, and in that
14 process, all the details will be fleshed out on the budget
15 and how the projects will be actually carried out.

16
17 The federal fisheries staff, information staff,
18 will then put this information together and they will
19 develop what's called an annual resource monitoring plan.
20 And by that time we're talking about, you know, a July 1st
21 through August 30th time frame. So there's much more time
22 here provided for getting that input and communication
23 going between the various groups and agencies to put these
24 programs together.

25
26 Once the annual resource management monitoring plan
27 is developed, it will come back to the RACs, okay, for your
28 review at your fall meeting, so you'll have another
29 opportunity to take a look at what has been developed, and
30 your comments then will be heard again, and changes can be
31 made. And then that revised plan then will be sent to the
32 Federal Subsistence Board. And we're looking at a target
33 date of approximately December. And at that time, the
34 approval will be given for the funding to go forward for
35 certain projects. And that will then give the time for the
36 partners, if, you know, if it's an agency and Kawerak, or a
37 community that maybe wants to do a project, if it's a
38 traditional environmental knowledge project that a lot of
39 the organization, the community will have them talked to,
40 because that kind of consultation is necessary. We're not
41 going to fund projects that local communities don't want to
42 see funded. And so those projects then will go forward
43 prior to the field season.

44
45 The intent is, is to develop high quality projects,
46 qual- -- projects that build capability in the local
47 partners, the groups, the regional organization and the
48 tribal groups that are going to be involved with these
49 projects, and also building a greater capability in the
50 agencies to understand really what's happening with the

00093

1 subsistence resources. So there's going to be learning
2 occurring on both sides. Yes?

3
4 MS. DEGNAN: Uh-huh. Yeah, now, what do
5 you do in the instance that you have a project developed
6 and you're working hand-in-hand with somebody, but you're
7 going to go out to get local knowledge, and the local
8 people -- some give out the information, but the consensus
9 of the group, the greater group, says, no, we don't want
10 that. What do you do about that situation?

11
12 MR. CANNON: Well, my experience has been
13 with this, and again this -- we're -- this is something
14 totally new, and we're going to be learning as we go,
15 but.....

16
17 MS. DEGNAN: Uh-huh.

18
19 MR. CANNON:my experience in working
20 with, you know, local communities with various types of
21 projects is when the community is dead set against
22 something, that pretty much will stop the project.

23
24 MS. DEGNAN: Uh-huh. And then you'll have
25 those -- I know when we were going through the coastal
26 management program, and doing our local knowledge, that we
27 respected the wishes of the entire region not to specify
28 where the resource is.....

29
30 MR. CANNON: Uh-huh.

31
32 MS. DEGNAN:located, because that
33 went against traditional and customs. So I don't think
34 that that -- from the indigenous subsistence user that way
35 of thinking has not changed to this date, even if it's 13
36 years later. So that would be my concern is -- because I
37 know you have annual subsistence surveys, and there are
38 people, including myself, don't -- that will not -- do not
39 want to give out the information simply because that's how
40 we were raised. You don't give away your storehouse, but
41 you share.

42
43 MR. CANNON: Uh-huh.

44
45 MS. DEGNAN: And so that goes against
46 traditional and customary ways as from my world view. So I
47 look at it, you know, in a way that are we going to force
48 the hand of the indigenous subsistence user to reveal his
49 food source in the name of conservation or protection of
50 the resource? And I don't think, you know, we need to go

00094

1 that far, but there are many information sources and
2 information, types of information that is readily given,
3 but totally ignored by those doing the projects and doing
4 the surveys, because it is not relevant. But when you come
5 back to it, they -- it is very relevant, because you've
6 taken climatic factors, you've taken, you know, seasonal
7 changes, you've taken what's happening, the movement of the
8 resource that you're studying. And that comes from the
9 person that's living there. So it's who -- what -- who
10 validates the information. That's what I'm concerned
11 about. And then when you say that you got a very low
12 response from the subsistence user, and therefore it's not
13 important, because we can't verify these certain things, I
14 think that you should take it in the sense that this is a
15 cultural difference, and not hold up projects or veto
16 projects simply that you don't get those statistical
17 validations, but you look at what is really important to
18 the subsistence resource.

19
20 And I think, you know, in my opinion, that what
21 we're dealing with here is subsistence management for whose
22 interest? Is it for the interest of the State of Alaska to
23 allow the resource to be in huge numbers so that you'll
24 have commercial interests and you'll have the recreational,
25 commercial protected, and still leave the subsistence user
26 out of the loop? That's what I'm concerned about. So
27 let's take it the other direction, because when you
28 safeguard the subsistence user, everybody else is
29 protected. So you're going to have a different -- just a
30 flip side reversal of mind set, so we look at, you know,
31 the subsistence user has always worked in harmony with the
32 natural forces, and you -- it comes that way, because if
33 you don't take care of your animals or your fish, you're
34 not going to be around much longer. And that is our
35 biggest economy in this region is what we garner from the
36 land, so that's what my concern was in terms of how -- who
37 validates what.

38
39 CHAIR CROSS: Perry?

40
41 MR. MENDENHALL: Yeah. I appreciate
42 bringing forth those three proposals that impact our region
43 from Arctic Slope to Bering Sea, and I'm glad to see the
44 example time line that you want us to work by for
45 developing the year 2001. I think there's a formula that
46 you said that those who show quality in such a short time,
47 I think that's kind of a plus based on the past, because
48 when we dealt with the state, it never did -- was funded
49 for two years, one or two years later after we made the
50 request. Here you folks are doing the first step out into

00095

1 fisheries, subsistence fisheries with that \$9 million, and
2 I think it's -- need to be commended on that aspect. And
3 given us the example, three proposal steps plus partnership
4 plus good input, with your timeline, it's kind of showing
5 us that -- what we need to do if we want a project in our
6 region.

7
8 MS. DEGNAN: Uh-huh.

9
10 MR. MENDENHALL: And I appreciate it, and I
11 -- of course, we all want to develop stuff for our area,
12 even though we may not qualify in that aspect, but we want
13 to be qualified. Even if it means partnership with the
14 state, too, you know, that would work, 'cause that would
15 help impact -- make a bigger imprint of the study, and also
16 maybe you might be forerunners of leading the state of
17 what is right, how to do it. And that's what my comments
18 are on this unified fisheries resource monitoring program
19 status, and I think that's a good start.

20
21 MR. CANNON: Well, I appreciate your
22 comments. I know that one of the things that we're trying
23 to do in developing this is to make use of the experience
24 that people have gained, you know, already in working
25 with.....

26
27 MR. MENDENHALL: It took a long time.....

28
29 MR. CANNON:this -- these kinds of
30 projects. Yeah.

31
32 MR. MENDENHALL: Yeah. It took -- it's
33 taken a long from '83, '87 when I was.....

34
35 MR. CANNON: Yes.

36
37 MR. MENDENHALL:involved with state
38 fish.....

39
40 MR. CANNON: Yes.

41
42 MR. MENDENHALL:board meetings,
43 and.....

44
45 MR. CANNON: Yeah. And we're trying --
46 we're looking at, you know, trying to get people into
47 training that are -- you know, some of the agency people,
48 that would help them understand more about how to do these
49 kind of projects, and more about the sensitivities of
50 working, you know, with other people from other cultures.

00096

1 Also there's been a fair amount down already as far as
2 setting up standards for how to do these kind of projects,
3 and we can learn from that, and we definitely will use that
4 knowledge to get things started on the right foot so we
5 don't have those kinds of problems, and the regional
6 councils will provide a tremendous way of providing
7 accountability, to make sure that those things don't
8 happen, because if a community has a concern like that, I'm
9 sure you'll hear about it, and then you're in a position to
10 make those concerns known.

11
12 MS. DEGNAN: Yeah.

13
14 MR. MENDENHALL: Come April 1, we should
15 start developing some proposals. I'll have to look in that
16 stuff at home.

17
18 MR. CANNON: Yes. In fact at this meeting
19 is where, in terms of this schedule, is where the regional
20 council begins to -- needs to begin to talk about, discuss,
21 think about, what kind of issues and information needs that
22 you'd like to see developed into proposals for your region.
23 And we're going to try to start that process tonight. It's
24 -- again, it's something new, and we're going to have to
25 take it one step at a time and learn together about how to
26 make this work.

27
28 MR. MENDENHALL: There's Kuzittrin, there's
29 Pilgrim, there's Unalakleet River, there's Koyuk.....

30
31 MS. DEGNAN: Koyuk. Uh-huh.

32
33 MR. MENDENHALL:that are -- falls
34 right into federal guidelines in that aspect.

35
36 CHAIR CROSS: I think that -- I also want
37 you to note one thing. As we talk about these things,
38 there are some of us who live in Nome that don't live in
39 federal lands, but yet we're trying to protect the
40 subsistence.....

41
42 MR. CANNON: Right.

43
44 CHAIR CROSS:activities of our
45 neighbors, which you do not find in the state of Alaska,
46 urban against rural. The urbans -- the urban communities
47 that do not have subsistence right look upon us like, well,
48 if I'm left out, therefore you can't have any. But in our
49 communities where we actually do live subsistence
50 lifestyles, we are not protected. Although we are under

00097

1 ANILCA, because we are Alaskan -- I mean ANCSA, because
2 we're Alaska natives, we're under -- we are -- we're under
3 native land claims, Perry and I are not protected by
4 ANILCA, because we live in Nome. But we have to protect
5 our neighbors who are covered under ANILCA, because we
6 don't want to see the same things happening to us. I want
7 you to keep it in mind as you work with these, and keep,
8 you know, remind yourself that there are people in rural
9 Alaska that some of them may not be on federal lands, but
10 yet they're protecting federal lands simply because they
11 feel very, very strong in subsistence. I'm a little out of
12 context,.....

13
14 MR. CANNON: No, no, that's okay.

15
16 CHAIR CROSS:but I'm glad to see
17 this, and can you hand out this paper before we go on, so
18 other people can look at it,.....

19
20 MR. CANNON: Uh-huh.

21
22 CHAIR CROSS:because I think it's a
23 useful tool. Because I think you're going to -- maybe it
24 will tie in with what you're going to talk about here.
25 These are kind of -- when you're going to be talk- -- when
26 you talk about brief preproposals, and this is kind of like
27 identification, something that could be a tool to use to
28 identify.....

29
30 MR. CANNON: Yes.

31
32 CHAIR CROSS:what could be proposed?

33
34 MR. BOYD: Right.

35
36 MR. CANNON: Yes, it is, and the task
37 before the Council at this point is to begin that dialogue
38 about what you're -- you know, what the issues are for your
39 region, and what information needs could help address those
40 issues. And from that then these one-page proposals,
41 similar to the ones that we looked at for -- that were
42 approved for February that will be considered for April
43 will be developed, and this will help us to be -- to flesh
44 out and understand what might be done.

45
46 So as you begin this process, there are some things
47 that I think that would be helpful to guide your thinking
48 in that, and some of that information is contained under
49 the questions and answers that follow this discussion of
50 the process. It's just on the next page. And these are

00098

1 some criteria that have been suggested for beginning to set
2 some priorities for information.

3
4 Okay. To identify the management issues and
5 information that can help address the issues, the Federal
6 Subsistence Board has endorsed the following criteria.
7 Number 1, that there is a direct association with
8 subsistence fishing on federal lands, and we talked about
9 that. And I think it's important to realize that that
10 association, or that linkage, you know, can be -- take many
11 forms. It may be that if you're -- like in the Nome area,
12 for example, if because of the restrictions on subsistence
13 because of state regulation, if subsistence users then are
14 forced to go out into other areas, the Pilgrim or the
15 Kuzitrin, for example, that are under federal management,
16 that might -- that may make that linkage. Okay. So you
17 have to begin to think about what might link what's going
18 on in one area with areas that are under federal
19 management. And on many of these things again we're still
20 developing, you know, the range of possibilities of what
21 they might -- what it might actually look like in the
22 future.

23
24 The second one is risk to conservation of healthy
25 fish populations as well as risks to conservation unit
26 purposes. So we're, you know, also concerned about the
27 basic conservation of the resource.

28
29 The third one is risk of failure to provide a
30 priority to nonwasteful subsistence uses. Okay. If
31 there's subsistence users that are just simply not getting
32 their needs met, that's another priority criteria.

33
34 Fourth would be risk that inadequate information is
35 available to support sound management. Well, this is an
36 important one, because in terms of how the state is
37 managing its fisheries, generally what they try to do is
38 use the management of the commercial fishery to minimize or
39 avoid any conflict or impact on the subsistence fishery.
40 So in some cases, better information to do management in a
41 commercial fishery or a sport fishery could help protect
42 the interest of the subsistence user. So there is a
43 connection there.

44
45 And then the fifth is significance of resource to
46 the subsistence harvest. How important is this? How many
47 people are involved? Those are all ways of looking at the
48 priorities for your region.

49
50 And then as you -- as these proposals are

00099

1 developed, and, you know, the various details are put
2 together, then those proposals will come back to you and
3 there will be a way of then ranking, a way of developing --
4 there are some criteria that have been suggested to help
5 you evaluate the proposal itself, and they're listed under
6 number 5. And so you'd have an opportunity then to look at
7 the proposals, and with regard to its responsiveness, has
8 it been a respons -- is it responsive to the identified
9 management issues and information needs that you as a
10 regional council have identified?

11
12 Is there technical quality of the project? Or of
13 the information that was corrected? If you know from your
14 local experience that, you know, that something that's
15 being proposed just isn't going to work, then that's
16 something that you could identify. Or you're -- you have a
17 question about it based on your experience.

18
19 Is there demonstrated -- is there demonstrated
20 technical, administrative expertise of the group or the
21 people that are proposing the project to complete the work?
22 Yeah. And so you could -- if someone is proposing a
23 project, and to do a project, and they haven't had a good
24 record of delivering products, then that's something that
25 the regional council could raise a question about.

26
27 The extent to which the project includes
28 appropriate partners and contributes to the capacities of
29 agencies, local communities, and residents to participate
30 in fisheries resource management. This is a very important
31 one. This is one of the most important ones I think that
32 we're looking at. Is -- does the project really help
33 people at the local level to be involved with the project
34 to the extent that they want to be? Okay. To -- that
35 there is an interest. And so if there's an opportunity to
36 develop a partnership with a local groups, and that will be
37 given a priority for the investigators who are doing those
38 kind of things and they'll get a higher consideration in
39 most cases.

40
41 MR. MENDENHALL: Yeah, I think Charlie Lean
42 and I, we, what, were right up to that answer. There's a
43 lot of that work that's been done.

44
45 MR. CANNON: That's right. You know, where
46 a lot of this came from,.....

47
48 MR. MENDENHALL: Uh-huh.

49
50 MR. CANNON:these ideas? It's from

00100

1 what's already happening. What's already happening in --
2 throughout Western Alaska. In the Yukon, on the Kuskokwim,
3 and Norton Sound. And I think the interest was, is let's
4 try to support what's already going on at the ground level.

5
6 MR. MENDENHALL: Yeah, we tried
7 everything.....

8
9 MR. CANNON: Yeah.

10
11 MR. MENDENHALL:basically.

12
13 MR. CANNON: So in this case you're
14 actually -- this program is trying to encourage that to
15 happen, those kind of things to occur.

16
17 You've looked at some examples in your packet of
18 various kinds of projects that could be developed, and, for
19 example, there are three basic types that we're looking at.
20 And one would be called the fish stock status and trends.
21 These are the basic biological data collection projects.
22 For example, the char projects where you're collecting
23 information so that you can separate the stocks out. That
24 would be a project that would be a stock status and trend,
25 or the tower projects to evaluate escapement. So that's
26 one type.

27
28 Another type, of course, is subsistence harvest
29 monitoring projects, and, you know, they could be the
30 projects that I think many of you are familiar with, for
31 example, the post season surveys that the Division of
32 Subsistence has done. Those types of projects.

33
34 They also can be -- involve traditional knowledge
35 as well. Either of these projects can -- these type of
36 projects can involve that kind of input. And it's
37 interesting that there -- that was mentioned already, that
38 I think Grace mentioned it, that there was a -- in Bristol
39 Bay, the Bristol Bay Native Association had already
40 proposed a project like that. And that's a good example of
41 what's possible to do with a TEK project, and that's one
42 you may want to look at for your region, to consider doing
43 something like that. There are many example, and I -- as
44 you -- you know, and for me it's been a real education,
45 too, that there are many, many types of efforts going on in
46 -- throughout -- in fisheries and in other areas of
47 resource management to do -- to include this kind of
48 information, and it is being accepted by decision-makers,
49 so I think that's a really significant step in the right
50 direction.

00101

1 MR. MENDENHALL: What does TEK mean?

2
3 MR. CANNON: That's traditional.....

4
5 MS. DEGNAN: Traditional ecologic.....

6
7 MR. CANNON:environmental knowledge.

8
9 MR. MENDENHALL: Okay. I just never saw it
10 before.

11
12 MR. CANNON: Yeah. That's kind of the buzz
13 word for local knowledge. And in many cases it's.....

14
15 MR. BOYD: Elders knowledge.

16
17 MR. CANNON: It's elders' knowledge as well
18 as fishermen's knowledge, hunters' knowledge, and people
19 are writing it down and putting it in a form that you can
20 take to the Board of Fisheries, or you can take to the
21 Federal Subsistence Board, or the Norther Pacific Fisheries
22 Management Council, and say, here, we're documenting what
23 people know, and they know it from their own experience,
24 but also from the experience of people that have gone
25 before, so it's passed intergeneration. Generation to
26 generation. And when it's written.....

27
28 MR. MENDENHALL: One recommendation would
29 be to put page numbers on these, because they're.....

30
31 MR. CANNON: I know. It's hard to.....

32
33 MR. MENDENHALL:somebody did it
34 backwards.....

35
36 MR. CANNON:to look at.

37
38 MR. MENDENHALL:or a situation.

39
40 MR. CANNON: Right.

41
42 MR. MENDENHALL: Hard to reference to them.

43
44 MR. CANNON: In your consideration of
45 identifying issues and needs, you may want to take a look
46 at this earlier work that was done to try to attempt to do
47 that, and then sort of -- you may want to look at this and
48 say, well, you know, we need to go beyond this, or you may
49 not agree with some of it, because this was done very
50 quickly with the information that was available to

00102

1 primarily the agencies, and they put it together. And it
2 -- but it's a good start, so you may want to refer to this
3 as well.

4
5 MR. MENDENHALL: Just for the example of
6 Nome, one Fish Board meeting we had data just for Norton
7 Sound/Bering Sea that high, that thick. That's.....

8
9 MS. DEGNAN: In what language?

10
11 MR. MENDENHALL: English, scientific as
12 well, most of it.

13
14 MR. CANNON: If you -- I apologize for this
15 not being numbered, but -- okay. Here we go. Oh, good,
16 thank you. If you flip back, I think it's back two or
17 three pages into this table, and you'd be -- it's --
18 basically it says region, Norton Sound area. And the first
19 area or the first water bodied identified is Unalakleet
20 Wild and Scenic River. So this is another source of
21 information that you may choose to consider, to evaluate it
22 as you as a regional council identify the issues and needs
23 for this coming FY 2001 program.

24
25 CHAIR CROSS: Excuse me. Excuse me.

26
27 MR. CANNON: Yes?

28
29 CHAIR CROSS: Charlie Lean had his hand up
30 there for.....

31
32 MR. LEAN: I don't know if it's an
33 appropriate time, but I was looking at the colored map and
34 looking at the federal land (indiscernible) and the
35 (indiscernible), and I think just for the Council's
36 reference, there's a high likelihood in the next year or so
37 that there be a management issue with the streams between
38 Stebbins and the Yukon River mouth regarding subsistence
39 openings, whether or not the Yukon itself might be open,
40 and -- or closed, and whether these streams might be
41 managed separately. Of course, Unalakleet River is
42 federally owned. The upper Fish River, above Niakpuk (ph)
43 is ostensibly a federal holding, although it doesn't show
44 on the map. The Glacial Lake, Salmon Lake red salmon runs
45 are controversial, and the fall chum run on the Agiapuk
46 River flowing into Immigrant Basin goes through federal
47 lands, and that's -- and that along with the Fish River are
48 two streams that are likely to be impacted by Nome
49 residents as they reach out further and further for their
50 subsistence needs. You might -- does the Council want to

00103

1 think about those in this proposal process.

2

3 MR. MENDENHALL: 'Cause I know that he
4 asked for many types research funds and from the state was
5 unable to get it. Basically it wasn't his fault, you know.
6 He knew that they needed more work.

7

8 MR. CANNON: Yeah, that project has been
9 submitted to our project review committee, but when we
10 looked at it at that point, the representative from the
11 Department did not -- was not aware that it had really
12 undergone a great deal of local consultation. And if that,
13 you know, is occurring, or if we didn't really have a clear
14 understanding of that, then that project could be even
15 possibly moved forward, if there's time to even -- you
16 know, one consideration will be is there time to really get
17 all -- do all the organizing, buy equipment in order to put
18 it in the water for this field season? But that's one that
19 has been submitted to our committee.

20

21 MR. MENDENHALL: Yeah, there's supposed to
22 be some government, state government funds coming in closer
23 to Nome, you know, because of this recent task force that
24 the Governor created. But I think these other creeks like
25 he mentioned, rivers, drainage.....

26

27 MR. CANNON: The Pitmiktalik?

28

29 MR. LEAN: Well, the Pitmiktalik, the
30 Kobuk, both south of Stebbins on the refuge.

31

32 MR. CANNON: Yes.

33

34 CHAIR CROSS: I see a lot of yawns. Can we
35 take a short break?

36

37 MR. CANNON: Yes.

38

39 CHAIR CROSS: You can open the door for a
40 while.

41

42 (Off record - 8:07 p.m.)

43

44 (On record - 8:18 p.m.)

45

46 CHAIR CROSS: We're back on the record. It
47 is now 8:18 p.m.

48

49 MS. DOWNING: Excuse me, folks.

50

00104

1 CHAIR CROSS: We're back on the record at
2 8:18 p.m. There's a couple of people that came in, Fred
3 DeCicco and Jeanie Cole?

4
5 MS. COLE: Cole.

6
7 CHAIR CROSS: From -- oh, there you are.

8
9 MS. DEWHURST: And Kate Persons.

10
11 CHAIR CROSS: From BLM. We would like to
12 acknowledge their presence, and.....

13
14 MR. MENDENHALL: Who? Oh, Mary?

15
16 CHAIR CROSS: Jeanie.....

17
18 MS. DEWHURST: Jeanie Cole from Fairbanks.

19
20 CHAIR CROSS:Cole and Fred DeCicco.

21
22 MS. DEWHURST: And Kate and Jim Magdanz,
23 too.

24
25 MR. MENDENHALL: Oh, I thought.....

26
27 CHAIR CROSS: And Kate and who?

28
29 MS. DEWHURST: Kate Persons and Jim
30 Magdanz?

31
32 CHAIR CROSS: Oh, yeah, Kate Persons and
33 Jim. Hi, Jim. Sorry. Do you want us to reintroduce
34 ourselves, or do you know most everybody?

35
36 MR. MAGDANZ: I think I know about
37 everyone.

38
39 CHAIR CROSS: Okay. Well, welcome here.

40
41 MR. MENDENHALL: Where are we on the
42 agenda?

43
44 MS. DEGNAN: Re-introduction.

45
46 MR. MENDENHALL: Point of order. Oh. What
47 are we doing?

48
49 MS. DEGNAN: Just introducing.....

50

00105

1 MR. MENDENHALL: Introducing?

2
3 CHAIR CROSS: Yeah, the ones that they
4 don't know, they're introducing themselves.

5
6 MR. MENDENHALL: Okay.

7
8 CHAIR CROSS: Okay. So that's probably the
9 quickest way for introductions. Okay. And we'll continue
10 on with our -- what we were doing earlier.

11
12 MR. CANNON: Thank you, Madam Chair.

13
14 MR. MENDENHALL: Rick Cannon. That's you.

15
16 MR. CANNON: Yes, I know. What -- we
17 passed out a form that may help the Council to begin to
18 organize its discussions about the issues and needs of the
19 region, and one way you might think about doing that is to
20 begin to look at various areas within this area by
21 communities, or by rivers and water -- you know, the lakes
22 and water bodies that support subsistence fisheries and
23 then begin to talk about the priority needs for those
24 areas.

25
26 And to be the most helpful for this process, if you
27 could identify specific areas, specific rivers like the
28 Unalakleet River or the Pikmiktalik River, and species of
29 fish, that will help in the identification of a need, a
30 specific need which then can be turned into a specific
31 proposal. And to do that, you know, you may need to go
32 back and get input from other people in your communities or
33 in the region, and this process, you know, because we've
34 got more time, could accommodate that. You may have -- I'm
35 sure many of you have specific ideas, and things that you'd
36 like to provide tonight, you know, right away. But we do
37 have some time to, you know, to have dialogue beyond just
38 the people that could make this meeting. That information
39 then could be put on a form like this and sent to our
40 coordinator, and then the staff could take it and put it
41 into a report for this region. And then we could begin the
42 next step of trying to identify, you know, some potential
43 proposals.

44
45 MR. MENDENHALL: Madam Chair? I think that
46 hearing that Charlie Lean had the proposal before and it
47 never was considered, I think we -- I would like to work
48 with probably Charlie and Ken and Kawerak maybe and come up
49 with some kind of proposal addressing these -- the area in
50 our region, because I think that they're going to look for

00106

1 input from local people and how to get them involved,
2 because Kawerak in essence is supposed to also have a
3 fishery department active for the region. So -- and
4 there's some CDQ groups that we could probably look at to
5 see where -- what rivers are impacted, you know, like
6 Lemons. There's some others from Koyuk, you know, and they
7 -- those people from Koyuk could probably put a proposal
8 together just for Fish Ri -- that's Fish River or Koyuk
9 River, too.

10
11 MS. DEGNAN: The Ingutalik, and the
12 Ungalik.

13
14 MR. MENDENHALL: And then you -- and you'll
15 hear.....

16
17 MR. BUCK: I feel that I should be
18 listening to Golovin, and Elim and Koyuk, too, with their
19 proposals and how -- their proposals when I go to meetings,
20 too, and I think they'd better bring a lot of.....

21
22 MR. MENDENHALL: Well, you can develop your
23 own proposal with them, too. I mean, it's just a matter of
24 doing proposals to get them in. Which one would pass and
25 which one won't, you know, I mean, it's -- or even
26 combining them, too. It's not -- we're not competing for
27 dollars, they're the same bucket. We still have that -- we
28 don't know what fish you're going to get at Fish River next
29 year. Next summer. Probably going to crash like Nome.

30
31 MS. DEGNAN: You're talking about the
32 salmon?

33
34 MR. MENDENHALL: Yeah. Those kind of
35 studies in that aspect, I'm looking at working together
36 within our RAC group, working with other agencies and
37 departments.

38
39 CHAIR CROSS: There are statistics that
40 have already been developed, too, and we should look at
41 what we have already in place and begin from there to see.

42
43 MR. MENDENHALL: Right.

44
45 CHAIR CROSS: But make sure that we get
46 communities involved, where just a certain group, core
47 group of people don't make decisions for, you know, like
48 people from his community, from his tribe, that they have
49 input, or that they're able to provide.....

50

00107

1 MR. MENDENHALL: Uh-huh.

2
3 CHAIR CROSS:their needs and present
4 it to us,.....

5
6 MR. MENDENHALL: Right.

7
8 CHAIR CROSS:and set a time frame
9 where we'd be able to collect all that and be able to send
10 it on.

11
12 MR. MENDENHALL: I mean, following the
13 funding source guideline that he just outlined, that's
14 our.....

15
16 CHAIR CROSS: Uh-huh.

17
18 MR. MENDENHALL:timeline, that's our
19 time frame.

20
21 CHAIR CROSS: That's what I meant,.....

22
23 MR. MENDENHALL: Yeah. So.....

24
25 CHAIR CROSS:following the timelines.
26 And we'll have to look at what resources we'll be relying
27 on in terms of.....

28
29 MR. MENDENHALL: Right.

30
31 CHAIR CROSS:where are the bucks
32 going to come from in order to accomplish this.

33
34 MR. MENDENHALL: Who's going to do it, you
35 know.

36
37 CHAIR CROSS: Uh-huh.

38
39 MR. MENDENHALL: And I -- that's the only
40 way we're going to have to go at it, because nobody else is
41 going to do it for us from this committee.

42
43 CHAIR CROSS: Uh-huh.

44
45 MR. MENDENHALL: Nobody.

46
47 CHAIR CROSS: Uh-huh.

48
49 MR. MENDENHALL: We have to start it. We
50 can't say this is our territory, and that's ours, you know,

00108

1 we have to work within this region and back each other up.
2 We're not -- we can't be territorial any more. Look what
3 happened. We crashed. So I think what I'm asking is that
4 we need to go back to our communities, go back to our
5 regional entities, our other departments and see what
6 proposals they have, and what they lack, what they don't
7 have, do have, like you said, come back within the timeline
8 later on.

9
10 CHAIR CROSS: Identify issues and needs and
11 species and.....

12
13 MR. MENDENHALL: This is legally our first
14 meeting, right? March?

15
16 CHAIR CROSS: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

17
18 MR. CANNON: That's right.

19
20 MR. MENDENHALL: Okay. So we have another
21 one down the line before breakup and then one fall time and
22 then.....

23
24 MR. CANNON: Well, actually I don't think
25 that we're planning to have other meetings, you know, like
26 this one just for this purpose. It would be to identify
27 these needs. You might just write them down on, you know,
28 a form like this,.....

29
30 MR. MENDENHALL: Uh-huh.

31
32 MR. CANNON:and then send them to the
33 Office of Subsistence Management, and the we could -- staff
34 could basically begin to collate them into a report that
35 would identify issues and needs. And then.....

36
37 MR. MENDENHALL: So you.....

38
39 MR. CANNON:from that we could
40 begin.....

41
42 MS. DEGNAN: Yeah.

43
44 MR. CANNON:looking at potential
45 proposals.

46
47 MR. MENDENHALL: So you want all of the RAC
48 members to do it?

49
50 MR. CANNON: Yes.

00109

1 MS. DEGNAN: Yeah. And.....

2
3 MR. CANNON: That's one option that you
4 have.

5
6 MR. MENDENHALL: Uh-huh.

7
8 MS. DEGNAN: And like you only do it for
9 the area that you're familiar with, so -- and I had filled
10 mine out, and these are what I consider important issues
11 pertaining to subsistence fisheries are, one, local
12 knowledge be used as a base for management decision; two,
13 utilize local tribe for data collection and validation of
14 data and projects requests; utilize local council of elders
15 for customary and traditional validations and
16 determinations; and utilize indigenous definition of
17 subsistence; no closed seasons for subsistence use, closure
18 of subsistence; and to look at the issue of closure of
19 subsistence fishery when commercial fishery is running
20 should -- a subsistence fishery should not be closed,
21 okay,.....

22
23 MR. MENDENHALL: Okay.

24
25 MS. DEGNAN:when you have other uses.
26 And then the catch and release salmon sports fishery, what
27 is the mortality rate of fish, because that's the concern
28 here at the local level, is because we have three different
29 user groups right here in this -- on this river system is
30 subsistence use, the sports fishery, and also the
31 commercial, and they're all important to the community,
32 so.....

33
34 MR. MENDENHALL: And I think those two
35 Koyuk boys back there are ones, too, you know, they have
36 validation to their needs on Koyuk River.

37
38 CHAIR CROSS: That's what I mean. I think
39 we should kind of start from ground zero and start going --
40 I mean, from ground level and start growing outward, and
41 then we'll see. We already have these things in place, but
42 we also need to expand in this area and start identifying
43 the areas and start identifying the areas which are already
44 in place that are very important for us, that we want to
45 emphasize to continue funding, and then identify areas that
46 we feel that need to be funded for the stated reasons, and
47 do kind of like a -- from community level on up until we
48 come up with like a regional needs things.

49
50 MS. DEGNAN: Needs assessment.

00110

1 CHAIR CROSS: Pretty much.

2

3 MR. MENDENHALL: And I think by sending
4 them to three entities, the village council, IRA, and the
5 corporation of each of these communities listed, and

6

7 CHAIR CROSS: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

8

9 MR. MENDENHALL:have a deadline for
10 them to.....

11

12 CHAIR CROSS: And we can utilize maybe
13 things.....

14

15 MR. MENDENHALL: And.....

16

17 CHAIR CROSS:that are already in
18 existence, like the.....

19

20 MR. MENDENHALL: Yeah, and let him compile
21 it, because he's trained to do that type of data.

22

23 MS. DEGNAN: And then each one of them,
24 each of the communities within our region are very much
25 interested in what this council does, and if we get -- ask
26 for their input through, you know, specific information,
27 and see what that response is, that would be.....

28

29 MR. MENDENHALL: In each.....

30

31 MS. DEGNAN:a valuable tool.

32

33 MR. MENDENHALL: It seems like.....

34

35 CHAIR CROSS: And seeing if.....

36

37 MR. MENDENHALL:you'd want to start
38 out with a clean slate, you know, just.....

39

40 CHAIR CROSS: And try to see if there's
41 local entities within our communities that may be able to
42 financially assist in gathering the information, because I
43 don't know how much money you're talking about providing to
44 the RACs in order to do this, if any.

45

46 MR. MENDENHALL: A 33 cent stamp.

47

48 MR. CANNON: Right.

49

50 MR. BOYD: And we can work (indiscernible).

00111

1 MR. CANNON: Right. But one thing to kind
2 of get things into perspective, the first step is simply to
3 identify the issue and the need. That then will become a
4 -- be put into a report, and then regional organizations,
5 tribes, you know, agencies can look at that and say, well,
6 this is something that, you know, that we'd be interested
7 in getting involved with, and so the Division of
8 Subsistence, for example, in the Department of Fish and
9 Game, you know, they may have been interested in doing, you
10 know, an expansion of their harvest survey, and they could
11 partner with a group, a local group to do that.

12
13 MR. MENDENHALL: Just like if -- like I
14 said I would help out, you know, with.....

15
16 MR. CANNON: Yes. So it's really a way of
17 beginning to see what the needs are, so then -- and then
18 you assess what your resources are. You know, what I've
19 seen is you don't want to take on so much that you -- you
20 know, that you -- you're not able to accomplish it, you
21 have.....

22
23 MR. MENDENHALL: Water us down, yeah.

24
25 MR. CANNON: Yeah.

26
27 MR. MENDENHALL: Because there's only so
28 much money involved.

29
30 MR. CANNON: And there's, you know,
31 depending on how many people you have to get ready to do
32 this kind of work, you know, we're talking about this
33 project actually being implemented, you know, for the 2001
34 -- you know, during 2001, a year from now, you know, and it
35 takes time to develop the capability, and, you know, it's
36 better to do I think projects well and gain that
37 experience, and then you can grow from there.

38
39 MR. MENDENHALL: I think you will be able
40 to glean enough to put a few projects after you get
41 feedback.....

42
43 MR. CANNON: Yes.

44
45 MR. MENDENHALL:from the villages on
46 that, and get a starting point, you know, because they may
47 have all the common goals,.....

48
49 MS. DEGNAN: Uh-huh.

50

00112

1 MR. CANNON: Yes.

2

3 MR. MENDENHALL:or they might have
4 specific goals that are unique that is on federal land.

5

6 MR. CANNON: Yes. Uh-huh.

7

8 MS. DEGNAN: And then White Mountain is
9 going to do.....

10

11 MR. MENDENHALL: Uh-huh.

12

13 MS. DEGNAN:one in conjunction
14 with.....

15

16 MR. MENDENHALL: Headwaters.

17

18 MS. DEGNAN:Area M, and do a study.

19

20 MR. MENDENHALL: We'll send White Mountain,
21 Peter Buck down to Area M. I guess (indiscernible) Aleuts
22 down that way.

23

24 MR. BUCK: That's all right. I think that
25 with the engineering capability that we have now, I think
26 this information should be available for people to review,
27 and if they have comments, then they can write us some
28 letters. I think they should be available to the village
29 council, IRAs.....

30

31 MS. DEGNAN: Yeah, because IRA's are.....

32

33 MR. MENDENHALL: What would that.....

34

35 MS. DEGNAN:on the internet.

36

37 MR. BUCK:(indiscernible -
38 simultaneous speech) and then how your information.....

39

40 MS. DEGNAN: Uh-huh.

41

42 MR. BUCK:can be -- we get.....

43

44 MR. MENDENHALL: No, I don't want.....

45

46 MR. BUCK:it through -- and they can
47 get it through here,.....

48

49 MR. MENDENHALL:people like Tim Smith
50 answering.

00113

1 MR. BUCK:and make their comments to
2 us, and then we can make the recommendations.

3
4 MR. MENDENHALL: I don't want Tim Smith
5 answering for Nome.

6
7 CHAIR CROSS: So it seems to me that.....

8
9 MR. BUCK: Then we'll have Area M taken
10 care of.

11
12 CHAIR CROSS:we should.....

13
14 MR. MENDENHALL: Anyway -- and it doesn't
15 stop us from making comments from the council either.

16
17 CHAIR CROSS: No. Unh-unh. (Negative)

18
19 MR. MENDENHALL: So we individually, too,
20 can add to remedies.

21
22 CHAIR CROSS: To what we feel is important
23 and.....

24
25 MR. CANNON: We've already -- you know,
26 I've taken some notes. I mean, I've already heard very
27 clearly some of the issues, you know, the issues about the,
28 you know, the interception of the salmon in other areas,
29 other fisheries, the concern about not knowing why the fish
30 are not coming back to certain areas. It may be
31 environmental concerns or somebody else is catching them.
32 Those kind of things we hear, and we can identify those as
33 issues. But it's the specific kinds of things in your
34 areas, the specific species concerns or harvest concerns,
35 those are the things that we're going to need to try to
36 identify.

37
38 MR. MENDENHALL: Yeah, like you on arctic
39 char for my area.

40
41 MR. CANNON: Yeah, well, if that's an
42 interest -- something that's,.....

43
44 MR. MENDENHALL: Uh-huh.

45
46 MR. CANNON:of interest, if there's
47 -- if the studies that are being done, for example, in
48 Kotzebue are successful, and they're able to develop
49 genetic markers so that you can separate out stocks, then
50 you may want to see those techniques applied, you know, in

00114

1 Norton Sound rivers as well. But it's a good idea to test
2 it first to see if it's going to work before you, you know,
3 spend a lot of additional money on something that may not,
4 you know, work that well.

5
6 MR. MENDENHALL: 'Cause they're predators
7 towards the -- a lot of salmon eggs.

8
9 MR. CANNON: Right. Well, interspecies --
10 you know, looking at studies that would look at the
11 relationship of species are another type of project that
12 could be identified as well. You know, the effect of
13 predation is a type of a project that could be, you know,
14 looked at.

15
16 MR. KOBUK: One thing that comes to my mind
17 is the beavers damming up the rivers, because a long time
18 ago they used to hunt a lot of beavers, but now they don't
19 do it any more. Now it's gotten to the point where the
20 beavers are so overpopulated they're damming up rivers and
21 the fish that make it up there in high water can't make it
22 -- they can't come back out again. I've.....

23
24 MR. MENDENHALL: Can't spawn.

25
26 MR. KOBUK:seen a lot of that in St.
27 Michael area. Not only there, but also down in Sheldon's
28 Point where I usually go berry picking. Sometimes we have
29 to break through dams to reach a berry spot where we
30 usually pick, and then some fish would be coming. As soon
31 as you break the dam open, the fish would -- some fishes
32 would be coming out. So our main concern is -- and not
33 only that, you're not able to drink the water that you used
34 to drink, but now you've got to boil your water, or bring
35 your own water, because of beaver, what do you call, beaver
36 fever. You get sick from drinking it. And our concern is
37 what is to be done about the beavers, because they're
38 really destroying many of the rivers by their dams.

39
40 MR. MENDENHALL: Yeah, we never saw beaver
41 dams in Nome before until recently. A long time, in my 50
42 years of growing up in Nome. Just recently, the past 15
43 years.

44
45 CHAIR CROSS: Climatic change.

46
47 MR. BUCK: White Mountain area's real bad.

48
49 MR. MENDENHALL: We even had a beaver out
50 in the Bering Sea. We had to shoot him just to put him out

00115

1 of his misery, because he was trying to be near these play
2 Christmas trees that we put out, what, ten miles out.

3
4 CHAIR CROSS: So maybe what we should do is
5 just initially set up a small core group to start planning
6 on how we're going to be able to get this information and
7 what is feasible in order to at least submit some
8 proposals. And I don't know how we'd be able to select
9 those, we take on a voluntary basis or what criteria we
10 could use.

11
12 MR. MENDENHALL: Yeah. I think he's hired
13 to do that, go through that.

14
15 MR. CANNON: That's right.

16
17 MR. MENDENHALL: And that's what he's hired
18 to do.

19
20 MR. CANNON: Yes. It's -- at this point,
21 you know, regional councils are asked simply to be the
22 conduit for the issue -- identification of the issues, and
23 the information needs. And that in- -- then that input
24 then can be turned into a report that we could begin to
25 look at potential proposals, we could begin to develop
26 those proposals. Then we could work with, you know, Fish
27 and Game, and with the National Park Service and other
28 groups to try to identify, depending on, you know, what
29 area it is, to develop proposals for actually studying
30 that. So, I mean, this is -- we're talking about -- I'm
31 sure to begin with it will be a partnership, but that's how
32 this whole thing really got started, you know, the idea of
33 people seeing a problem and combining their resources
34 together to try to solve it.

35
36 MR. MENDENHALL: Yeah, Kawerak might need
37 matching funds for some of their -- Elim, those kind of
38 rivers.

39
40 MR. CANNON: And these -- you know, these
41 funds could go to the Department of Fish and Game, you
42 know, and they could do projects, you know, and -- or
43 federal agencies, and.....

44
45 MR. MENDENHALL: And your Unalakleet Fish
46 Cannery can probably match funds for Unalakleet River.

47
48 MS. DEGNAN: If there's any fish. Match
49 fish.

50

00116

1 MR. MENDENHALL: There's money around
2 there, matching funds, and people doing work on fish,
3 salmon.

4
5 MR. BOYD: I -- if I might add something,
6 Madam Chair, I hope it's somewhat apparent from what we're
7 trying to do here, that what we're trying to start is an
8 annual cycle,.....

9
10 CHAIR CROSS: Uh-huh.

11
12 MR. BOYD:so that as we get into the
13 fisheries regulatory issues, they then begin to drive the
14 research issues or the studies issues that we want. I
15 guess starting out like this, it's very hard for us to
16 think without, you know, some understanding of what some of
17 the regulatory issues are. But I think you know some of
18 them already, because many of you have been involved in
19 this on the state side, so I think just keep that in the
20 back of your mind that this is going to be something we do
21 every year, and as we move through our regulatory cycles,
22 this will become a little easier, and we'll begin to
23 recognize where those issues are, and sometimes these
24 issues will get repeated year after year until we finally
25 get some action going on it, so hopefully this will become,
26 you know, a systematic approach that we're trying to take
27 on here.

28
29 MS. DEGNAN: As long as we don't lose sight
30 of why we're all here.

31
32 MR. BOYD: Exactly. And I think that has
33 to stay right in front of us all the time.

34
35 MS. DEGNAN: And, you know, the perception
36 of the user is that you've got this gigantic program, and
37 -- but they're still being denied their right for
38 existence, and that's the perception, because all we're
39 doing is studying this reams of paper, but yet it's a food
40 issue.

41
42 MR. MENDENHALL: Yeah, unit as a council.
43 As a regional council.

44
45 MS. DEGNAN: And they're looking toward us
46 to make sure that the resource goes on.

47
48 MR. MENDENHALL: I'd still like to promote
49 winter studies somehow.

50

00117

1 MS. DEGNAN: Beaver and eggs and.....

2

3 MR. MENDENHALL: Climatic changes.

4

5 MS. DEGNAN: Yeah, another issue is the --
6 what effect does the brown bear have in the spawning
7 grounds, and that was an issue that was raised by elders.

8

9 MR. MENDENHALL: And -- plus this beaver.

10

11 MS. DEGNAN: And the beaver. The beaver.

12

13 MR. MENDENHALL: Peter and they -- and I,
14 we have concern about beavers. Not the chihuahua.

15

16 CHAIR CROSS: And the long-term goal, what
17 caused the chum in Nome to disappear.

18

19 MR. MENDENHALL: I think there's on-going
20 studies like they don't have no funding for, like Fish and
21 Game, too.

22

23 CHAIR CROSS: Yeah, and I really would like
24 to encourage all of you to continue following the current
25 studies that are going on in the Bering Sea ecosystem, so
26 if some things that are starting to trigger out, then that
27 may identify, could possibly be the cause of the actions be
28 taken in some way or another.

29

30 MR. CANNON: The.....

31

32 CHAIR CROSS: We are very concerned about
33 the decline of chum in our area. It's not there.

34

35 MR. BOYD: (Indiscernible) the issue.

36

37 MR. CANNON: Well, once, you know, I think
38 the -- looking into the future when the.....

39

40 MR. MENDENHALL: Madam Chair, maybe we need
41 to get the address out where they could send their stuff to
42 from Koyuk? Where should they mail it to, Rich?

43

44 MR. BOYD: 1011 East Tudor Road.

45

46 MR. CANNON: Yes.

47

48 MR. BOYD: I think the council members
49 should have our address through Helga. But it's 1011 East
50 Tudor Road.

00118

1 MS. EAKON: Yes, it's in your books also.

2

3 MR. BOYD: It's in your -- yeah.

4

5 MS. EAKON: It's in your meeting book.

6

7 MR. CANNON: Here it is.

8

9 MS. MCBURNEY: It's on the back of the
10 question and answer.

11

12 CHAIR CROSS: In the what?

13

14 MR. BOYD: It's on the back of I believe
15 the handout.

16

17 MS. MCBURNEY: It's the question and answer
18 page for.....

19

20 MR. BOYD: Okay.

21

22 MS. MCBURNEY:the 2001 process.

23

24 MR. BOYD: So it's in your handout on the
25 back.

26

27 CHAIR CROSS: No, the question were
28 directed to people from Koyuk.

29

30 MR. ANESOGAK: If it's in there, we'll find
31 it. Thank you.

32

33 MR. MENDENHALL: Attention Helga? Or.....

34

35 MR. CANNON: Yes.

36

37 MS. EAKON: Regional coordinator.

38

39 MR. MENDENHALL: Or attention Rick?

40

41 MR. BOYD: Rick, it could be, or.....

42

43 MR. CANNON: Yes.

44

45 MR. BOYD:Rich Cannon, you could
46 address it to Rich. I think for now, why won't we just say
47 that?

48

49 MR. MENDENHALL: Attention Rick, 'cause
50 he's got to do the analysis.

00119

1 MR. BOYD: Yeah.

2

3 MR. CANNON: Well, it would be good, I
4 think to have one point of contact, and I think we should
5 use the regional coordinator.

6

7 MR. BOYD: Well, I think if you say
8 regional coordinator, Seward Peninsula. Obviously some of
9 you may be aware already -- does the council know the new
10 situation with Helga?

11

12 MS. DEGNAN: What is it?

13

14 MR. BOYD: I don't know, have you told
15 them, Helga? Maybe we should announce it. Helga has just
16 received a promotion in our office and removing to a new
17 position, the interagency coordinator position, so she will
18 no longer be your regional council coordinator. That's the
19 good news and the bad news at the same time for you.

20

21 MR. MENDENHALL: Bad news.

22

23 MS. DEGNAN: Congratulations, Helga.

24

25 MS. EAKON: Thank you.

26

27 MR. BOYD: Yeah. And.....

28

29 MS. DEGNAN: But we've really appreciated
30 her help. It's made a world of difference.

31

32 MR. BOYD: Well, I think it's duly noted,
33 and the reason for the promotion, too. She -- so I think
34 that's the reason you wouldn't send it to Helga, but I
35 think we will be in the process of finding a new
36 coordinator, and so if you send it to regional coordinator,
37 it will get to us.

38

39 CHAIR CROSS: And Mr. Boyd found something
40 really important today, too. He needs to talk to Helga
41 more often regarding Lear jets.

42

43 MR. BOYD: Lear -- yeah.

44

45 MS. EAKON: I thought we had reached
46 closure on that.

47

48 MR. CANNON: Madam Chairman, that concludes
49 my presentation.

50

00120

1 CHAIR CROSS: Thank you very much. You
2 were very informative, and in a way it's heartening. I'm
3 glad you're doing all this efforts to try to get
4 communities involved, and trying to learn about issues
5 within different regions. It's encouraging. Okay.

6
7 Should we continue? It's about a quarter to nine.

8
9 MS. DEGNAN: We still have Mary.

10
11 MR. MENDENHALL: When do you want to go
12 back, Mary?

13
14 MS. MCBURNEY: Pardon?

15
16 MR. MENDENHALL: When do you want to go
17 back?

18
19 MS. MCBURNEY: Whenever we're done.

20
21 CHAIR CROSS: So I don't know, what is the
22 wishes of the council? Shall we continue with Mary.....

23
24 MS. DEGNAN: Yeah. Uh-huh.

25
26 MR. MENDENHALL: How long do you pro-.....

27
28 CHAIR CROSS:and have her finish, and
29 then we're.....

30
31 MS. DEGNAN: Yeah. Uh-huh.

32
33 MR. MENDENHALL: How long do you propose to
34 make a presentation?

35
36 MS. MCBURNEY: Rich did it for me. I just
37 was moral support.

38
39 MR. CANNON: Moral support.

40
41 MS. DEGNAN: Distraction? No.

42
43 MR. CANNON: She was trying to keep me from
44 floating around here.

45
46 MR. MENDENHALL: So you're done with your
47 report?

48
49 MS. MCBURNEY: I fed him the papers.

50

00121

1 MR. MENDENHALL: So you're kind of
2 basically done with your presentation as well?

3
4 MS. MCBURNEY: Shortest one so far.

5
6 MR. MENDENHALL: Okay.

7
8 CHAIR CROSS: Well, you did a very job
9 shuffling papers, keeping him.....

10
11 (Laughter)

12
13 MS. MCBURNEY: Thank you, Madam Chair.

14
15 MR. MENDENHALL: I'm trying to find our
16 agenda then.

17
18 CHAIR CROSS: So maybe we should start
19 earlier than nine tomorrow?

20
21 MS. EAKON: It's up to you. Under the
22 circumstances, I think that will be -- that will be okay.
23 Just amend your time.

24
25 MR. MENDENHALL: 9:00 o'clock would still
26 be okay.

27
28 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Nine.

29
30 MS. EAKON: Uh-huh.

31
32 CHAIR CROSS: Okay. It looks like the rest
33 of the council would rather start at nine, so we'll
34 promptly start at nine tomorrow morning. Yes?

35
36 MR. CANNON: Madam Chairman, you know, I
37 put this thing together very quickly, and I realize I
38 should have put a place to put someone's name on it,
39 because I would like to in many cases give them a call
40 back, or contact them if I have a question about what.....

41
42 MR. MENDENHALL: Perhaps with that co-
43 letter, you would make that,.....

44
45 MR. CANNON: Yes.

46
47 MR. MENDENHALL:and put that on
48 there, too,.....

49
50 MR. CANNON: We can do that.

00122

1 MS. DEGNAN: Yeah.

2
3 MR. MENDENHALL:the name and phone
4 number.

5
6 MR. CANNON: But until we get that done, if
7 people -- if they're going to send this in, just put their
8 name and their phone number on it, and that way we'll get
9 it back to you,

10
11 MS. DEGNAN: Yeah.

12
13 MR. CANNON:so that we can.....

14
15 MR. MENDENHALL: I'll write her name on
16 mine.

17
18 MR. CANNON: Okay. Because the main thing
19 is that we want to be able to encourage communication.....

20
21 MR. MENDENHALL: Uh-huh.

22
23 MR. CANNON:on this.

24
25 MS. DEGNAN: But I'd like to take it a step
26 further and give it to the three groups in each
27 community.....

28
29 MR. MENDENHALL: Uh-huh.

30
31 MS. DEGNAN:to have their input in,
32 because I think that's really important for it to come from
33 the Office of Subsistence Management rather than from me as
34 a council person, because I'm always giving them
35 information, and when I see them, I'd -- for it to come to
36 -- from your office to them, and then they can consult with
37 me on the local level, and they can do the same with one of
38 the members, because it works out better that way I find.

39
40 MR. MENDENHALL: For Nome, I think other
41 than the city council, it should be ANB, Arctic Native
42 Brotherhood.

43
44 MS. DEGNAN: Oh, city council should be on
45 the list, too.

46
47 CHAIR CROSS: Well, maybe the.....

48
49 MR. MENDENHALL: Nome city?

50

00123

1 MS. DEGNAN: Sure. They're.....

2
3 MR. MENDENHALL: They've got the most
4 conservative buy on there.

5
6 MS. DEGNAN: Well, what.....

7
8 CHAIR CROSS: Yeah. There's always Nome
9 Eskimo Community, too.

10
11 MR. MENDENHALL: Yeah, I know. Nome Eskimo
12 is already included. But I'm just.....

13
14 MS. DEGNAN: But to be consistent.

15
16 MR. MENDENHALL:looking at the native
17 entity memberships.

18
19 MS. DEGNAN: But we're, you know, -- we
20 need to get the widest public input and get it to every
21 group.

22
23 MR. MENDENHALL: I know it.

24
25 MS. DEGNAN: It's.....

26
27 MR. MENDENHALL: We had a big battle with
28 that. They were anti Tier II all the way through their
29 studies last year, and I take affront to that, like I say
30 don't send it to Unalakleet Native Council. I would -- you
31 know, it's like basically like that.

32
33 MS. DEGNAN: Yeah, well.....

34
35 MR. MENDENHALL: Because we had a big
36 battle. We had over 30 meetings, prolonged, protracted,
37 and it even got to where the elders were not coming to have
38 input on Tier II.

39
40 MS. DEGNAN: But looking in terms -- just
41 in terms of -- I'll defer to what you're -- for your
42 community,.....

43
44 MR. MENDENHALL: Uh-huh.

45
46 MS. DEGNAN:but in our communities,
47 we do have distribution.....

48
49 MR. MENDENHALL: I'm just looking at the
50 ones that have defense of subsistence under ANILCA.

00124

1 MS. DEGNAN: Uh-huh.

2

3 CHAIR CROSS: Well, I think that it's
4 something that if we're going to address the community of
5 Nome, that we within the community of Nome can identify
6 whom we wish.....

7
8 MS. DEGNAN: Right.

9

10 CHAIR CROSS:to be included, and whom
11 we don't, too, and work from there. So each of us that are
12 given in -- in given communities, you and Stebbins let's
13 say.

14
15 MR. ROOKOK: Stebbins.

16
17 MR. BUCK: And I'd like the Council and
18 Solomon to be included in any additions. We were very --
19 represented Council, and.....

20
21 CHAIR CROSS: Yeah, they're there.

22
23 MR. BUCK: They get it?

24
25 CHAIR CROSS: Yeah, there's Solomon --
26 Council is there. I don't see Solomon, but we can include
27 Solomon. We can always look at this form, too, and say we
28 need to include -- Solomon's missing, so therefore we need
29 to include Solomon. This something that's going to take
30 some discussion, it would be something that, you know, the
31 villages that are closest to you, that you can work with
32 comfortably and.....

33
34 MR. BUCK: Uh-huh.

35
36 CHAIR CROSS:start developing things,
37 and come up where we can have some kind of centralized
38 ideas.

39
40 MR. KOBUK: So you said you're going to be
41 mailing.....

42
43 MR. CANNON: Yeah.

44
45 MR. KOBUK:this out, and -- will that
46 include Stebbins? Because I represent two villages.

47
48 CHAIR CROSS: Yeah, they have it as
49 Sebbins.

50

00125

1 MR. BUCK: Sebbins.

2
3 MR. KOBUK: Oh, that's wrong,.....

4
5 CHAIR CROSS: It's Stebbins.

6
7 MR. KOBUK:it's got to have a T on
8 there. It's S-t-e-b. The IRA.

9
10 MR. CANNON: Late at night.

11
12 MR. KOBUK: Okay.

13
14 CHAIR CROSS: And.....

15
16 MS. EAKON: I have all those addresses.

17
18 CHAIR CROSS: With Elim, Golovin, White
19 Mountain, Council, Nome, he wanted Solomon.

20
21 MR. KOBUK: I didn't even notice that.

22
23 MR. MENDENHALL: That's Joe Curran who
24 lives in Anchorage.

25
26 CHAIR CROSS: And the only other community
27 I don't see, maybe it was purposely left out, is Little
28 Diomede is not there, but I guess that's -- I don't know if
29 there was a reason?

30
31 MR. CANNON: No, there wasn't. It was just
32 -- those are just, you know, starting the list, and I
33 assumed that the council would make this, you know,
34 complete for your areas.

35
36 CHAIR CROSS: Okay. Any further discussion
37 on this?

38
39 MR. MENDENHALL: Good night.

40
41 CHAIR CROSS: And I think we should
42 conclude the meeting, it is now -- unless somebody else
43 have anything else to say regarding this.

44
45 MR. KOBUK: How about our training?

46
47 CHAIR CROSS: Huh?

48
49 MR. KOBUK: Training.

50

00126

1 CHAIR CROSS: Your training?

2

3 MR. KOBUK: Aren't we going to have
4 training? Aren't we supposed to be having some kind of
5 training? Helga?

6

7 CHAIR CROSS: He's worried about our
8 training.

9

10 MS. EAKON: Okay. Well,.....

11

12 MR. MENDENHALL: We have training while we
13 go.

14

15 MS. EAKON: If you look at agenda,
16 fisheries -- there were two main topics for your agenda,
17 one the fisheries topic, the second are the proposals to
18 change subsistence wildlife regulations. And I would
19 suggest that when you're full of it in the morning, you
20 tackle these proposals, because there are some people here
21 who want to speak directly to the proposals. And remember,
22 at 10:00 Jake Olanna from Kawerak and his elders are going
23 to call in to testify on Proposal 53. So my suggestion is
24 that you focus on proposals, is that okay?

25

26 CHAIR CROSS: Uh-huh.

27

28 MR. MENDENHALL: No problem.

29

30 MS. EAKON: Because that's your second
31 major topic to build with.

32

33 CHAIR CROSS: Okay.

34

35 MS. EAKON: And let the others kind of fall
36 in after.

37

38 CHAIR CROSS: Uh-huh.

39

40 MS. EAKON: How's that?

41

42 CHAIR CROSS: Okay.

43

44 MS. DEGNAN: Sounds like a plan.

45

46 CHAIR CROSS: And then if there is no
47 training that doesn't happen at this time, maybe at a later
48 date something could be arranged.

49

50 MS. EAKON: Generally training for regional

00127

1 council members is scheduled for the fall meetings.

2
3 CHAIR CROSS: Uh-huh.

4
5 MS. EAKON: That's generally when we like
6 to focus on training. So we do not have time here, we can
7 put it on the agenda for the fall meeting.

8
9 CHAIR CROSS: That sounds good.

10
11 MS. EAKON: If we should have time tomorrow
12 for that, I can highlight some stuff.....

13
14 CHAIR CROSS: Uh-huh.

15
16 MS. EAKON:that's in this little
17 green operations manual, and at the same time, Sandy will
18 answer the question about individual c&t's. Okay?

19
20 CHAIR CROSS: Okay. Thank you. Anything
21 further? Hearing none, we now adjourn at 9:54 (sic).

22
23 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Recess.

24
25 CHAIR CROSS: Recess, I'm sorry. Recess at
26 9:54 (sic) p.m. until tomorrow morning at nine.

27
28 MS. DEGNAN: And the first item of business
29 will be the proposals.....

30
31 CHAIR CROSS: Proposals tomorrow morning.

32
33 MS. DEGNAN:and public input.

34
35 CHAIR CROSS: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

36
37 (Off record - 8:54 p.m.)

38
39 (END OF DAY'S PROCEEDINGS)

00128

C E R T I F I C A T E

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
) ss.
STATE OF ALASKA)

I, Joseph P. Kolasinski, Notary Public in and for the
State of Alaska and Owner of Computer Matrix, do hereby
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THAT the foregoing pages numbered 02 through 127 contain a
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SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL PUBLIC MEETING, taken
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THAT the transcript is a true and correct transcript
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my direction and reduced to print to the best of our knowledge
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THAT I am not an employee, attorney, or party interested
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DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 5th day of March, 2000.

Joseph P. Kolasinski
Notary Public in and for Alaska
My Commission Expires: 4/17/00